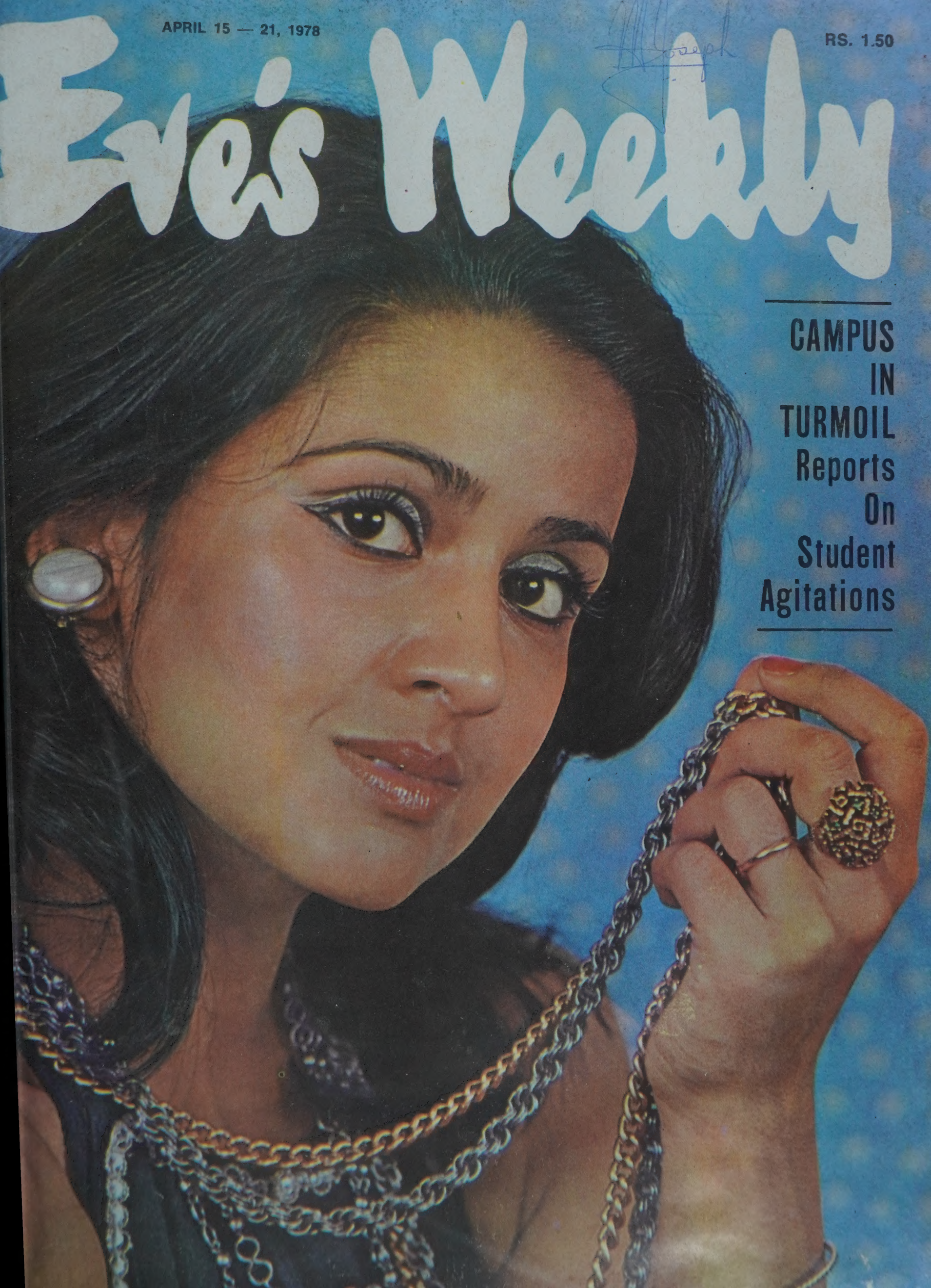
APRIL 15 — 21, 1978

RS. 1.50

Eve's Weekly



CAMPUS IN TURMOIL Reports On Student Agitations

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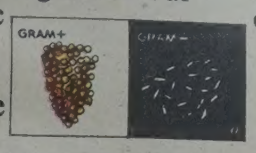

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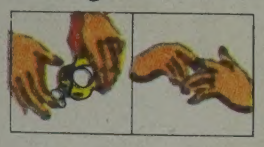

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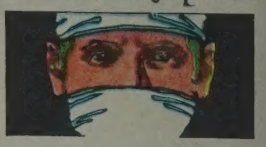

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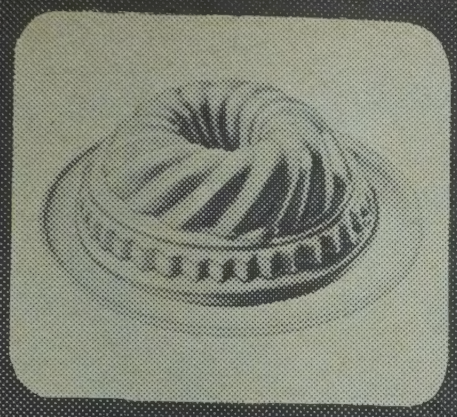

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SHARON PRABHAKAR

As far back as she can remember, pretty faced Sharon — a popular model, has always wanted to sing and be a top singer.

Brought up in Nainital, where she finished her school from All Saint's, she did B.A. from Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi. She won applause at her very first spot singing show at the India Tobacco Company's new hotel in Delhi recently. She sang at the Hotel Amoria during the Christmas season last year and for the "Pata" at Delhi's Oberoi-Intercontinental. Since then she has a number of shows to her credit. Soon she will be singing in Bombay at the Oberoi's Supper Club.

Besides her involvement in the shows, she finds enough time to relax at home and compose a lot of music herself, which she plans to include in her shows.

Photograph :
Rakesh Shrestha

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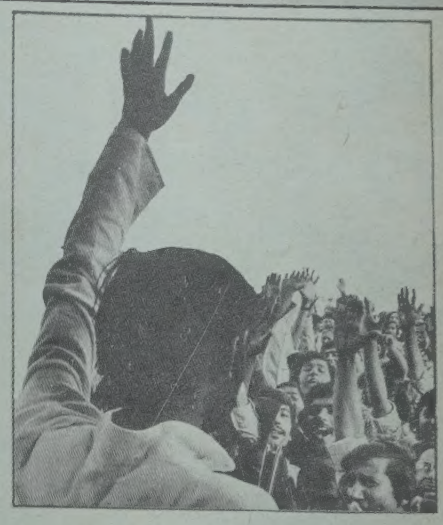
this week

CAMPUS IN TURMOIL

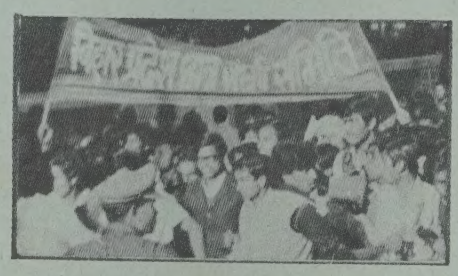
With the lifting of the Emergency and the restoration of some semblance of freedom, student agitations have once again become a national phenomenon. Reports from several centres provide an idea of the reasons behind the current unrest among students.



Report From Bombay

The campuses of colleges in Bombay have been in a state of turmoil off and on through much of 1977 and, now, 1978.

Page 8.



Report From Bihar

The reservation of seats in state government services is the current bone of contention in Bihar but the story of the recent student agitation in the state goes back several months.

Page 12.

Report From Delhi

Situated as they are in the country's capital, Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University cannot but be steeped in party politics and the attendant pressures.

Page 14.

Report From Calcutta

Calcutta, and Bengal, have long been noted for activist student groups.
A comprehensive study of the student population of Calcutta and the issues they are involved in.

Page 18.

CANCER REHABILITATION

The trauma of cancer does not end with the curing of it. The rehabilitation of a cancer patient is equally important — especially after operations that require amputations.

Page 42.

PRABHAVATI DEVI

On the occasion of her fifth death anniversary — April 15 — a look into the life of Mrs. Jayaprakash Narayan.

Page 41.

ALSO

Do-it-yourself decorations — **Page 17**; Film Interview: Parveen Babi, a threat to Zeenat and Hema? — **Page 21**, Work Experience: not working? — **Page 27.**

REGULAR FEATURES

Your Page & Horoscope/**7**, Comics/**20**, True Confession/**22**, Quiz/**23**, Fashions/**24**, Cookery/**29**, People Known & Unknown/**35**, Story/**37**, People & Events/**44**, World of Eve/**45**, Hi Ya Honey/**46.**

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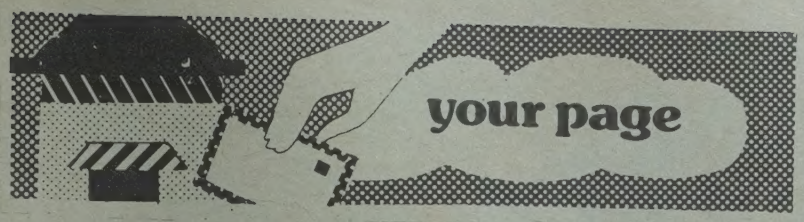


1st prize

TO STAY ALIVE

Recently, when a plane carrying a 45-member Rugby team to Chile, crashed on snow-capped mountains, there were 16 survivors. Despite being in absolute isolation for ten weeks and with no vegetation around, they were alive because they lived on the flesh of the dead passengers. Although people the world over rejoiced on their miraculous return, the news of their "diet" shocked and displeased many. Some called it ugly cannibalism, while others believed it would have been far more noble to die, than eat human flesh. These facts are recorded in a book which gives an account of the harrowing experience faced by these youngsters.

What irony! We are taught that it is neither legal nor befitting man to take his own life; the logical corollary to which is that man should make earnest efforts to live. When these courageous youngsters made the most difficult decision of their lives to eat the dead why wasn't the world able to unanimously applaud them? Under the guise of sophistication, we tolerate drug addiction and adultery. In a civilised world we remain calm when nations are at war, when man kills man. Yet we cannot accept the unnatural when necessary; the logical, even if gruesome? What a pack of sheep we are, tied to blind conformity and stubborn ideas.

Neeraja Ramakrishnan
Madras

Man eating man! Why should the idea be so revolting, when human life itself is at stake? Besides these were dead men whose flesh was made the means of desperate survival — while there are millions of us who kill innocent animals to savour their flesh.

2nd prize

A WOMAN'S WOES

What a disillusionment the entire process of woman's growth and development is in our society! Having been born after Independence, my parents and teachers encouraged me to compete with men at an equal level. A career was considered a 'must" and marriage no longer the obsessive factor in a girl's life. All my plans about the future were in terms of exciting job opportunities, going places, meeting lots of people and freely mixing with them, exploring new frontiers in human relationships, and so on. The world seemed to be extremely interesting and I was determined to make the most of it.

But alas! I didn't quite realise that mine was a make-believe world; that woman has no real freedom. Initially, the thrill and satisfaction of working and being independent was rather exciting, but soon it dawned on me that I was caught in the cobwebs of obscurantist social norms. Returning home late at night was taboo, even for a working girl. Even my "progressive" parents would frequently drop hints to come back home at a 'decent' hour. I found prying eyes, bitchy comments, strange looks following me around. Colleagues in the office would wonder at the unbridled licence given to me by my parents. Worse still, I was not even suspected of such virtues as middle-class morality.

I left the job in disgust to get married into a "respectable" family — the only commitment now is to bear and rear children and acquiesce into the abject 'pati seva' role. Economic independence is necessary for Eve's emancipation but is by no means sufficient. Social transformation alone is the key to woman's self development.

Name Withheld, Nagpur

But, you were not so determined after all, if you retreated so easily. Because there has been "social transformation", you were able to reach the stage of working and meeting people. It is entirely up to the woman to resist hypocritical norms and consolidate her position and her own values.

3rd prize

FAILED, BUT PROMOTED!

Your article "Headaches of School Admission" (EW Feb. 18) was very interesting and a timely one. It is high time we do away with these entrance tests and adopt some more sensible procedure of admission Not only is it a strain on parents' nerves and purse but a traumatic experience for the child. A really classic example of the ridiculousness of these entrance tests was related to me by a friend of mine.

This friend who was keen and anxious to see that her little son was somehow admitted in a good convent school, applied for both K.G. and 1st Std. With rigorous and meticulous coaching, he appeared for both the interviews and tests. After a long wait there arrived two letters from the school. With trepidation, she opend one; to her dismay she found that it was a 'regret' letter declaring that her son had failed in the entrance test for K.G Thinking that the same verdict would be in the second letter, she very reluctantly opened it. To her shock and joy it confirmed that her son had passed in the entrance test for 1st Std and had been admitted in the same!

Now, if this is the state of affairs with our admission tests, isn't it imperative to revolutionise the whole procedure of admissions?

Vijaya Murthy, Bombay

That's another "funny story" emanating from the arena of education. We are neither shocked nor surprised. At least, this story had a happy ending, unlike so many others. . .

this week for you

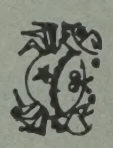
K. H. Shroff

For the week April 15-21

ARIES (Mar. 21 — Apr. 19) You will occupy a position of high esteem and trust. Financially good week. Favourable days: All days.

TAURUS (April 20 — May 21) Mental and physical conditions good. Favours marriages. Avoid investment in estate, changes in residence. Favourable days: 19, 20.

GEMINI (May 22 — June 21) Week of unexpected expenses. Journeys will not bring expected results. Negotiations, appointments, writing, are delayed. Favourable days: 20, 21.



CANCER (June 22 — July 22) Financial success. Also good news in domestic matters. Good week for business and personal affairs. Favourable days: All days.

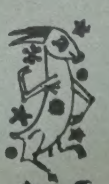
LEO (July 23 — Aug. 23) Avoid entering into arguments. Avoid commitments in any field. Take holiday this week. Favourable days: 20, 21.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 — Sept. 22) Happy week for completing pending matters. Good news from foreign countries. Chances to go abroad. Love life encouraging. Favourable days: All days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 — Oct. 22) Financial gains, preferment in profession. Artists win recognition. Delay in partnerships. Favourable days: 16, 17.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 — Nov. 22) Great change in luck if you stay away from place of birth. Foreign connections prove very helpful. Health care necessary. Favourable days: 15, 19.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 — Dec. 21) Sagittarians connected with air lines, sports and risky business favoured. Travel opportunities should be accepted. Romance likely. Favourable days: All days.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 — Jan. 19) Social life and places of entertainment bring new contacts. Happiness at home. Peak conditions in personal affairs. Favourable days: All days.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 — Feb. 19) Incompatability with relatives and dear ones experienced in personal matters. Disagreement with colleagues likely. Avoid snap decisions. Favourable days: 20, 21.

PISCES (Feb. 20 — March 20) Pisceans can achieve success in their objectives. Your ruling Jupiter is powerful enough to bestow favours. Favourable days: All days.

youth page

STUDENT UNREST:

REPORT FROM BOMBAY

Principals of certain colleges were in their element during the emergency. With authoritarianism as the order of the day, students were totally repressed, unable to voice dissent. The country's political malaise was reflected in their own academic environment. This, perhaps, contributed to a greater awareness of their loss of freedom. Hence, when the emergency was lifted, students instinctively protested against attempts by their principals to continue in the same undemocratic vein.

Bombay city itself witnessed a spate of student unrest in many colleges. In some, such as the Jhunjhunwala College and the S. P. Engineering College, agitations arose because basic demands affecting students were ignored. At Government Law College and Burhani College, students reacted against the principals' "high handed attitude." Things came to a a head at St. Xavier's. A report of this follows...

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

The St. Xavier's College is one of the better known academic institutions in the the country. Every year hundreds of students, fresh out of school, vie with each other to gain admission into this prestigeous institution. The college authorities make matters very clear right from the beginning, when every new student and his parents are made to sign a Declaration before admission is finally granted. This Declaration binds the students and the parents to "accept without any reservation...any decision that the Principal has already taken or might have to take regarding discipline or academic work."

This form of concentration of power requires blind obedience and absolutely no protest on the students' part. In fact, the Principal of the college, Father Lancy Pereira, reportedly said recently at an open meeting with students that St. Xavier's has never been and will never be a democratic institution.

Such a stand inevitably creates trouble between the students and the authorities. On the one hand are the students, who are agitating for more rights and for a reformation of the existing structure. On the other hand are the college authorities who are attempting to keep their position secure and not grant any concessions to the students.

To begin with, in 1971, there was the agitation to change the Students' Council into an effective body to represent the views and the attitudes of the students. The Council was merely a debating body until then. Along with this demand was also the demand for a constitution to regulate the working of the management and the Students' Council. As a result of this agitation, a Staff-Student Council was formed to settle any disputes between the management of the college, the students and the staff. It was on the strength of this position that the students were able to agitate successfully against the Prelims in 1974.

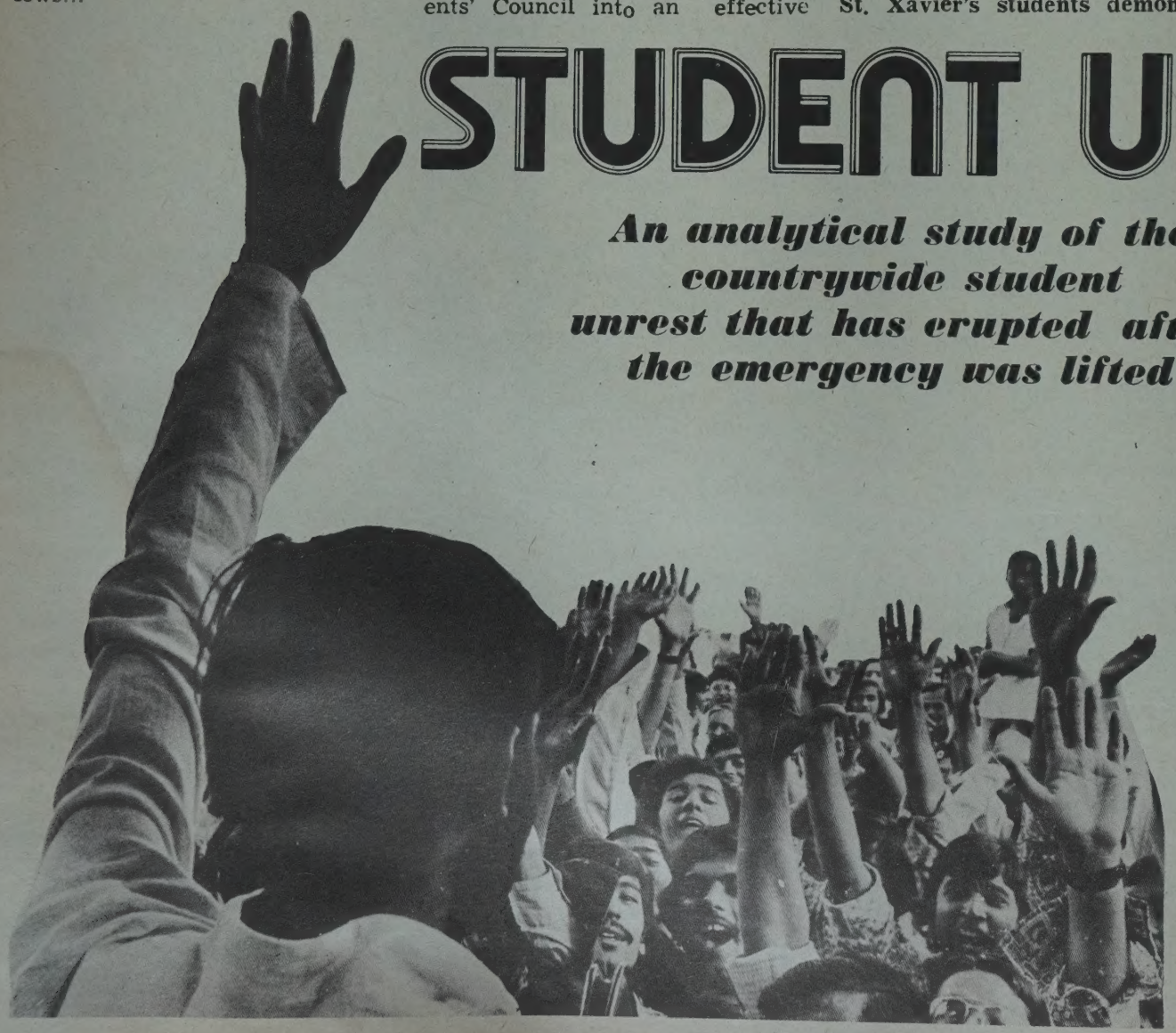
However, by this time Father Misquitta relinquished his post as Principal and Father Lancy Pereira took over. In 1975, Father Pereira scrapped the 1971 constitution and substituted it with a new one geared to suppressing growing students' power and awareness. Ravi Hazari, an active student, said, "He was aided considerably by the declaration of Emergency in the country during almost the same period. Several active students were expelled along with some staff who were found to be sympathetic to the students' cause.

"Fr. Pereira gained iron control over the college by imposing the Declaration on students and parents, restricting entry into the college premises to bearers of the college identity cards, putting up 'black lists' of erring students and by clever use of the Re-admission Policy."

Several students decided to sue the college for not re-admitting them to higher classes despite their having passed the University examination.

St. Xavier's students demonstrate in front of the college.

An analytical study of the countrywide student unrest that has erupted after the emergency was lifted



Such was the situation when some students of the 1977-78 batch decided to do something to win back their rights as students and fight authoritarianism in the college.

In the first part of the 1977 term, an underground pamphlet, "Xavieright," began appearing at regular intervals and sought to expose the ways in which the college was being administered autocratically. Spurred on by the truth of the Xavieright exposes, some students contacted the Committee for the Protection of Democratic Rights (CPDR) and, with their help, a gate meeting was organised. At this meeting students condemned the college authorities and an open debate was demanded with the Principal to make the issues at stake clearer.

Many students who attended this much-publicised debate felt that it was converted into a question-answer session, where very few of the answers given by the Principal were satisfactory

When students began bringing up instances of official corruption and malpractice, Fr. Pereira threatened them with legal action unless they produced written evidence to substantiate their charges. The students took up the challenge and agreed to present the evidence in a court of law. No more has been heard about that from the Principal.

At this stage, some of the active students approached ex-students, ex-staff members, students and staff-members of St. Xavier's to form a Union. Cooperation was immediate and, on October 18, 1977, the Xavierian Union (XU) was formed to continue the struggle against the authorities. This union was to be "an independent organisation consisting of Xavierites who have come together in the best interests of their alma mater."

During the Diwali vacations, Fr. Pereira suddenly left for New Delhi to take up a post on the University Grants Commission. Fr. Emil D'Cruz was appointed Acting Principal in his place. He had evidently not been given enough powers to take important decisions. Nevertheless, the XU decided to fight on. Their Executive Committee members won elections to the Staff-Student Constitution Committee which was to review the 1975 constitution. Another member, Amita Kagal, was elected as University representative from St. Xavier's.

"Encouraged by this show of confidence by the students, we the XU) presented seven demands before the authorities on December 20, 1977. We demanded the annulment of the Declaration, unconditional re-admission to all those who pass their university exams; a comprehensive admission policy, an autonomous Students' Union; a Staff-Student Council with continutity and equal status for all members; representation to staff and students on the Governing Body of the college; and a cooperative canteen."

The authorities refused to negotiate with the XU on the ground that it was an unofficial union, which was not recognised by them. They asked the students to present their demands through the official Students' Council, of which some of the XU people were members. The XU refused to go through the Students' Council because they claim that it is the "rubber stamp" of the management, and these same demands have been presented before through this body, but to no avail.

Adrian Miranda, chairman of the Students' Council, said that the XU "has bypassed the Council, when an article in the Constitution explicitly states that before any protest is undertaken, it must be presented before the Students' Council."

The XU answered by pointing out that the Students' Council still follows the constitution that was substituted by Fr. Pereira during the Emergency, and which they (the XU) do not recognise.

Professor Auguiar, one of the most influential professors in the college, said emphatically that, "if the students are dissatisfied with the Students' Council, they must learn to fight their own battle there and not with the college authorities."

Therefore, a deadlock was reached and the XU began an agitation by organising a three-day token strike during Christmas. People attending midnight mass at Xavier's were greeted by protest songs and posters outside the college, much to the embarrassment of the priests.

The XU then demanded that the Governing Body of the college be called for a meeting so that the XU could present their demands before them. The authorities refused to comply, saying that "the Governing Body does not meet students with individual demands. It is a question of procedure." The hunger strike continued and some of the strikers were "verbally expelled" from the college.

An XU spokesman said that "pressure was brought on us through our parents and through the police, but both were sym-

Continued overleaf

Students of St. Xavier's went on a hunger strike, too.

QUEEN MARIANS STAGE A SATYAGRAHA

Sixty staff members and 600-odd students of Queen Mary School, Bombay, held a three-day **satyagraha** in January, protesting against the management's (CMEF) authoritarianism.

Tuition fees were increased in 1974 as "additional allowances" had to be paid to staff members, etc. Or so the trustees said. In fact, one of the grievances voiced by the teachers is the freezing of D.A. since 1974. They have been denied house rent allowance and city local allowance as well as gratuity. And staff salaries have been cut by the management without the principal's knowledge.

The staff is facing constant threats of punishment, non-confirmation in their posts and termination of service.

Mr. P. Varghese, who has been praised by a student as "one of the most competent teachers we have had in the school," was removed a day after being elected Head of the Maths department.

Students are victimised indirectly by the trustees through the latter's association with some staff members. Trustees wander about the school premises and even enter classes, office rooms, and studies without the principal's permission.

New appointments are being made either against the principal's recommendations and even over her rightful objections.

The trustees have avoided and even opposed the formation of a P.T.A., an internationally recognised and acclaimed body in all leading schools. Parents of many students have intervened and spoken to the management in order to restore normalcy in the working conditions of the school — to no avail.

Perhaps for the first time in Bombay, students have lent full support to their teachers' agitation. The senior students, especially —realising that the standard of teaching will inevitably fall because good teachers will leave due to low renumeration and unsatisfactory working conditions —have cooperated with the staff in their courageous "battle" with the management.

Queen Marians support their teachers.

Teachers and staff of Queen Mary on hunger strike against injustice.

One of the staff members said, "Queen Mary will be proud of her students always for the marvellous way in which they spontaneously protested against the injustice shown to the staff. Hats off to Queen Marians, one and all."

Aabha Mittra

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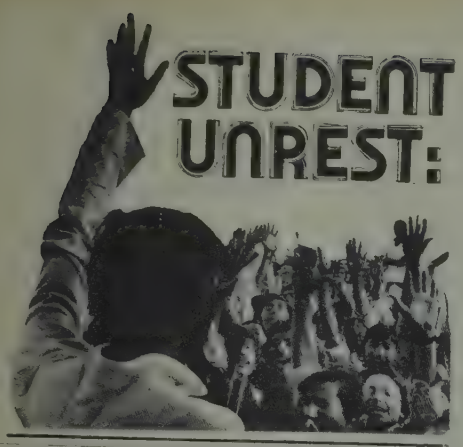

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

pathetic to our cause, unfortunately for the authorities."

The next day several students went around classrooms in the college to mobilise support for the strikers outside. There was a small tussle between the students and some professors. Orders were given at the main gate that none of the concerned students were to be allowed inside the college premises. Once more there was a tussle at the gate and the XU claims that karate experts were employed by the authorities to push students out. The authorities flatly deny that any karate expert was used. Prof. Augiar said, "One of the persons at the gate, Mar Rodriques, is supposed to know karate, but he was there as a member of the staff and not as a karate toughie."

Eyewitness accounts, however, prove that there was a certain amount of physical force wielded against the students and several of them were jostled and pushed around.

The XU immediately decided to go on a "fast unto death." Two XU office bearers, Sanjay Singhvi and Ravi Hazari, volunteered and relieved Bharat Parikh who had already completed one day's hunger strike.

The two hunger strikers carried on their fast for eight full days, neither eating any solids nor drinking any liquids except water. As their physical condition deteriorated, fellow students asked them to stop their fast as their dying would not help in anyway. However, both Sanjay and Ravi stuck on resolutely. A shamiana was erected to protect them from the sun and, at night the cold.

Meanwhile, public sympathy was turning in favour of the students. The generally uninvolved St. Xavier's student was also now backing the XU, slowly but surely. A one-day hunger strike in support of the two XU fasters was a success, with over a hundred students participating.

An XU spokesman said that they had met the Union Education Minister, Mr. P. C. Chunder, who "expressed sympathy for the students. He was quite surprised at the re-admission policy followed by the college."

The Governor was also interested in the agitation and the Bombay University Teachers' Union issued a press statement supporting the students and calling on the college authorities to negotiate with them.

The authorities, however suspended Sanjay Singhvi, Ravi Hazari, and Amita Kagal for the rest of the academic year.

The tension now reached a peak with the health of the two fasters now in a precarious condition. A morcha was organised to the University by the XU, along with other city student organisations, and the demands were presented to the Vice-Chancellor. He agreed to intervene and the next three days were filled with meetings between the college authorities and the V. C. Some compromises were suggested but were not suitable to either side.

Ravi Hazari and Sanjay Singhvi were hospitalised by the police and their condition was serious. They reportedly refused to break their fast even after hospitalisation. Finally, after days of tension, on January 22, 1978, the college authorities agreed to negotiate on equal terms with the XU and the Students' Council. The suspension order against the three XU office bearers was revoked and the students were jubilant.

Prof. Augiar said, "We have been working on compromise after compromise. There must be a stage where we say enough is enough."

The XU was celebrating. "We won a major victory. Now we will have to keep working to maintain the freedom we have won. The Declaration has been scrapped and the re-admission policy changed!"

Soon after this decision was taken, however, parents of four members of the Xaverian Union, according to Sanjay Singhvi, received letters from the authorities stating that their sons' behaviour "doesn't conform to the high standard of the College," so re-admission would not be given to them next year.

Much has yet to be gained by the students of St. Xavier's.

Sunil Shanbag

BOMBAY UNIVERSITY KARAMCHARIS' AGITATION

The end of the Maharashtra Government and quasi-government employees' strike has brought to an end the agitation, at least for the time being, of the Bombay University and college employees. This ends the second phase of their agitation, the first being before the emergency, while the second extends from the March '77 elections till the end of the strike. Both phases have been unsuccessful as far as the implementation of their demands are concerned.

The University karamcharis are organised in two unions. The direct employees of the University come under the Bombay University Employees Union led by its sectretary P.L. Ghone, while the employees of the private colleges are organised under the College Karamchari Union led by Jagganath Jadav of the Janata party.

The College Karamchari Union first started its agitation in 1973 when it put forward its demand for parity in wage scales with the University employees. This was conceded in principle by the Government and the Bhole commission report of 1976 also accepted this demand. However, before the struggle for its implementation could succeed, the emergency put a stopper to all agitation. The same demand was again put forward in March '77, when the emergency was withdrawn, which culminated in the April agitation where students, teachers and karamcharis joined hands to force a boycott of the University examinations.

Just when the demands of all three sections were receiving all round support, Jagganath Jadav of the College Karamchari Union called off the agitation on the basis of vague promises made by the C.M. Mr. Vasantdada Patil. The demands remained unfulfilled. The agitation was again revived and the boycott of the October examinations was forced. This time the Government agreed to raise the wage scales, but with effect from 1976 when the Bhole commission had put forward its report and not from 1973.

The stalemate continued till the Government promulgated an order on Nov. 19 '77 bringing employment under the University under the Essential Services Act, thus banning the right to strike and agitate. The brunt of the agitation was directed against this order thereafter. The Government subsequently repealed this order and Jagganath Jadav once again withdrew the college karamchari agitation, singing praises for the Government's kindness. The basic demands remained unfulfilled.

The University employees also had begun their agitation before the emergency and the Senate of the University had passed their demand of parity in wage scales between the university employees and the state government employees, in 1975. However, it was only after the emergency was withdrawn that they could demand its implementation. Their basic demand was revision of pay scales to State Government rates. Some of the other demands of the employees were—(i) Increase in dearness allowance, (ii) Adequate medical facilities, especially for class III and class IV employees, and (iii) Educational allowances for the children of the employees. The agitation of the University employees was closely coordinated with the College Karamchari Union.

When the College Karamchari Union withdrew its agitation in November '77, the University employees felt that the withdrawal was a betrayal and continued their agitation together with two hours' dharna against the University and Government authorities every day. Subsequently, the University employees' agitation merged with the Maharashtra government employees strike and is yet to get its demands accepted.

What do the students, who have been the worst hit in this see-saw battle, think? Some are against all strikes and strikers. Maya, an M.Sc. Physics student, commented, "Any strike by the employees is, in a real sense, a great loss to the students."

A post graduate student stated, "I would support the demands of the karamcharis in spite of the academic loss to students, because their demands are really justified. However, instead of jeopardising the examinations every year they should settle it once and for all."

Talking to a lecturer in the University, some interesting points were raised: "The condition of the class IV employees is very critical, because of their low pay. They have no proper accommodation facilities, and no travelling allowance is given to even those who come from Kalyan, Thana, etc. They have to undertake private or personal work of the University department heads. But the concerned authorities are neglecting the facts under one pretext or another. Unless these people are made aware of the attitude of the authorities nothing is going to change."

Some university peons interviewed expressed their disgust at the antics of the union leadership. They claimed to have suffered a grave loss due to the periodic calling of strikes, which had resulted in their wives and children often going hungry. They were not against the idea of stopping work to get the authorities to accede to their demands, but due to their compulsory membership of the union, their abstain

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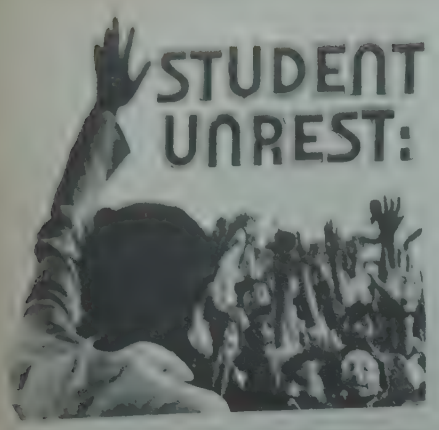


REPORT FROM BIHAR

Students and youth in Bihar are up in arms again. The latest issue which has aroused them is the reservation of 26 per cent seats in state government services for the backward classes on the basis of income. However the story of their recent agitation goes back to July last — after the colleges opened in the changed atmosphere created by the lifting of the emergency.

The situation threatens to become as serious as in 1974-75 when the Bihar Movement was launched. There are two reasons behind this — firstly, the Yuva Janata, formed by the youth wings of the constituents of the Janata Party, and most of the Chhatra Sangharsh Samiti leaders who had spearheaded the movement, have revived the old agitation. They held demonstrations in various district headquarters on March 18 to mark the revival. Currently, their leaders are touring the villages to mobilise public opinion. Secondly, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan who was their idol in the Bihar Andolan, and whom the students revere, has given a call to them to unite and fight for the fulfilment of the twin objectives of the movement — radical reform in education, and betterment of the socio-economic condition of the people.

A statement released by JP on the eve of the completion of one year after the lifting of the emergency, said, "Democracy must become an effective instrument in the hands of the people for tackling the twin tasks of change and reconstruction. The youth and students who had spearheaded the 1974-75 movement have a greater role to play in this context. They must close up their ranks and resume their struggle towards total revolution in a disciplined and responsible manner. They must also fight the social evils that block progress, and while doing so, lay down the contours of the new emerging society we seek to build."

His review of the Janata Government's one year in office, a few days later, pointing out certain failures on its part, has further boosted the morale of students who were waiting for some kind of agitation against the government for its sins of omission and commission.

Whatever their next move, students are currently agitating for the amendment in the reservation policy of the State Government. No doubt, the reservation was one of the promises made to the electorate by the Janata Party, but the way it was fulfilled has left many things to be desired. And it is the way which has annoyed both the sections — backward and 'advanced'.

The backward castes for whose benefit it nas been done should have welcomed it, but they haven't. The resentment of the upper caste students can be understood easily. The Government has not accepted financial status as the sole criterion for reservation in government jobs, irrespective of caste, as had been suggested by JP and some other leaders of repute. The upper caste students therefore will not derive any benefit accruing from it. The vocal section of backward castes is cautious because the government has fixed an income limit for being eligible for reserved seats. Any backward caste candidate, whose family income is Rs. 1000 per month or above, won't be entitled for a job in the reserved quota. Kurmi, Yadav, Koeri, and Bania castes which are economically well-off and provide the backward castes leadership will be adversely affected by this ceiling.

The impact of this agitation has been widespread because students of upper castes and well-to-do backward castes constitute a force to be reckoned with. There were about 5.45 lakh job seekers in the state up to June 30, 1977, according to the live registers of different employment exchanges. The figure will be astounding if those who have not renewed their cards, or have not applied calling it a "wasteful excercise" are taken into account. Most of them come from upper castes and economically better off backward castes.

The trouble shot up in all the six major universities and also the Sanskrit University at Darbhanga almost simultaneously. The Patna University, as on some other occasions, took the lead. Processions, bandhs, dharnas, were the order of the day. There was tension at all the college and university campuses. To avoid further trouble, the state government acted quickly and ordered closure of all the six major universities ahead of the scheduled closure for the Holi festival. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the Cr. P. C. were promulgated. Within a week of serious disturbances (from March 14 to 20) all the 31 district headquarters were put under Sec. 144. All hostels were vacated.

The result was far from satisfactory. The scene shifted from the campus to the streets. Chapra, Arrah, Gaya and Katihar witnessed the worst forms of unrest. Trains and buses were the main targets of attack. Rail services were affected at these places for almost four to 24 hours. All these are important stations in Eastern, North Eastern and North East Frontier Railways. Private mini buses were immediately withdrawn from the roads. However, there was no police firing, nor any serious burning of private or government property in any part of the state.

The situation can't be said to be normal yet; there can be a big flare up after the universities reopen because the demand voiced by the majority of the students for fixing income as the sole basis for reservation hasn't been accepted.

The election to student unions in different universities, which had been suspended during the emergency, was the other major issue agitating the students throughout the state at the beginning of the current academic session and just after the Janata Government was installed in the state. As this government has promised to restore democratic rights and civil liberties, union elections were ordered without much delay.

However, there was more hangama after the election than before. The Vidyarthi Parishad, the youth wing of the former Jana Sangh, captured most of the seats in the different universities. Out of 24 major posts in six universities, 17 were bagged by it. The rest were shared by the Yuva Janata and the leftist groups — All India Student Federation of the CPI, Student Federation of India of CPM and the Bihar Students' Association of CPI (M-L). All these groups protested that the elections were unfair and demanded a repeal. They also alleged that there was large-scale rigging in the elections. Several processions were taken out to put pressure on the authorities. There were petitions and counter-petitions. In Patna alone, some 100 students belonging to leftist parties were arrested for disturbances. Later, the University Election Board found the charge untenable. The dust has now settled, after nearly two months. There was also some row over elections to Syndicates and Sen-

ABOVE: Jayaprakash Narayan addressing a student meeting in Patna.

RIGHT: Dharna in front of the Martyrs' Memorial in Patna.

ates of Universities. The Vidyarthi Parishad had the upper hand here too.

Examinations are another live issue since last July, agitating the minds of authorities and students. It was in early July that Magadh University students with headquarters at Bodh Gaya, held demonstrations right in the portico of the State Assembly. Some of them raised a curious slogan: "Chori se tum jite ho; chori se ham pass karenge." An impression has grown that the Janata Government can't deal firmly with students for they were largely responsible for its victory at the polls.

Students are, however, divided over the examination issue. Some always demand extension of examination dates whenever they are announced; others oppose it. The confusion doesn't end there. During the exams too, some students come out protesing against what they call "stiff questions." They are later joined by others. Sometimes even force is used for the purpose. Last July-August witnessed a curious scene: some girl students were seen inciting boy examinees in Patna to walk out of examination halls. Walk-outs are followed by vociferous demands for re-examination which the authorities have been meekly accepting.

These walk-outs and demands for extension of dates and re-examinations have delayed annual examinations. Annual university and college examinations are behind schedule by one to one and a half years.

The University authorities are also yet to evolve and enforce a fool-proof system for checking mass copying and other unfair means in which, perhaps, the state tops the list. Fear of fresh agitation holds them back.

These were also noisy agitations over renaming of the L.N. Mishra Mithila University as Mithila University, which is the largest in the State with 62 affiliated colleges spread over eight districts, and the take-over of five private medical colleges last August. They were however, mostly localised with students of other places keeping out.

Critics point out that polarisation on caste lines, sectarian attitudes, and lack of concern about national interests are the main reasons for the frequent student agitations in the state.

Students are a major force and could have been a vital instrument for bringing about the much needed socio-economic changes. But they seem more concerned about themselves and fight mostly over petty issues. The state, therefore, suffers — in spite of JP, in spite of the new rulers, in spite of its rich economic potential, in spite of its large size and vast manpower.

R. Narayan

LEFT: A protest procession by the Chhatra Sangharsh Samiti.

BELOW: A student procession through the streets of Patna.

passing through

BARBARA INGHAM:

TEMPLES OF INDIA

Fifteen years ago, the very British Inghams sold their travel agency business in England which specialised in winter sports tours, and moved to the picturesque island of Elba, where five acres of land cultivated as vineyards kept the restless Barbara busy till 1974, when she decided to visit an old friend in Malaysia, who recommended India to her.

"In 1974 I decided to visit India and make a study of ancient Indian temples. I started reading every single book I could lay my hands on about India and visited the India Office in London regularly. I made a list of the various temples till I had compiled a fairly exhaustive one. I decided to concentrate on 10th to 13th century temples. I rated them with stars and joined them up in such a way that I got a tour of the country. I read through the Mahabharata and the Ramayana and tried to connect the legends with the temples."

Her book will be aimed towards the ordinary tourist and will have a clever weave of legend and history of the Indian temples. "The average Britisher is not very well informed about ancient Hindu India. I haven't found a book on India where the legends and the temples are interlinked. A tourist likes to know the history of a landmark through stories. It is much easier to remember and relate. A monument like the Taj Mahal is totally beautiful and required a minimum of explanation, but the temples have to be explained to enable a tourist to appreciate their beauty and understand the various intricate carvings.

"If tourists are shown a tower and there is no further explanation, then they look at it blankly. In the West the closest resemblance to ancient Indian architecture are the French Gothic cathedrals with their elaborate carvings and meanings. When we organised tours in England, I always explained history through legends."

Barbara's 1974 tour covered 12,000 km and cost nearly £ 3000. She managed to see roughly one temple a day. "I hired a car from Bombay (I prefer going alone since I work slowly). My driver felt homesick when I told him the tour would last four months, so I 'imported' his wife from his home town and the three of us drove around India. The little lady taught me to wear a sari which was a tremendous help as the priests welcomed me happily."

Barbara's working knowledge of Sanskrit helps her to communicate with the priests who have all been extremely cooperative.

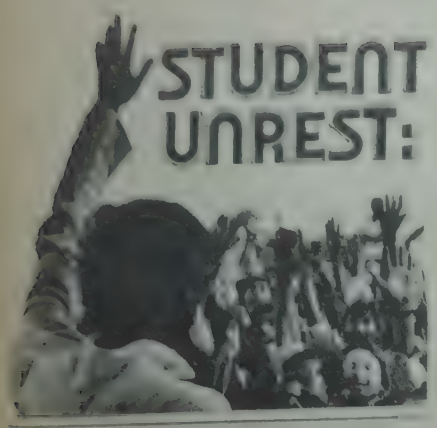
Her visits often turn cut mini festivals in many of the villages because she goes armed with bananas, sweets, biscuits to feed the children, monkeys and villagers. "I also carry medicines and distribute them when I see the sick and ailing." Barbara was on her way to becoming a doctor before the war broke out and she married.

Most of her trips are sprinkled with humour and adventures. Barbara recalls laughingly the day she stood near the Red Fort in her petticoat and choli, the six yards of sari far behind. "I stepped on it and next minute it was all over the place except on me. In Teheran I broke four ribs when I slid down a flight of stairs after telling everybody to be careful, and on my last trip out here I had jaundice."

On her present trip in India, financed from a legacy she has inherited, Barbara will drive via Pune, Nasik, south of the Godavari and form an inner circle to her previous 1974 route. She has just bought over 100 books on India.

Barbara Ingham's forthcoming book which she hopes to call "I Said The Tiger ...", will probably be in a class by itself, connecting as it does ancient Indian legends to existing temples as seen through the eyes of a foreigner.

Meher Castelino



REPORT FROM DELHI

Situated as it is in the capital of India, it is but natural that the Delhi University campus, comprising over 90,000 students, is steeped in politics. This year has been particularly momentous, and this is also quite natural. After being bottled up for two years during the Emergency, the students' repressed feelings have burst out in an explosion of anger.

Student elections were won by the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, which had also been active during the Emergency. The major events this year were the protest by the National Students, Union of India when the Prime Minister visited the campus, the locking up of the V.C.'s office by the DUSU and the DUSU office in turn by the Chhatra Sangharsh Samiti, a splinter group of the NSUI. Currently, the DUSU is facing a no-confidence move jointly sponsored by all opposition organisations.

This is what a cross-section of students of Delhi University have to say about student unrest on the campus.

Vijay Goel, the president of the Delhi University Students' Union, is a versatile student. After completing his post-graduation from Sri Ram College of Commerce, he is doing Law. He won the presidentship on the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad ticket.

Analysing the unrest among students, Vijay Goel says, "This is quite natural. The college student is at the cross-roads of life. He feels the urge to do a number of things, and when he is unable to do them he feels frustrated. Coupled with this is his sense of insecurity. He does not know what the future holds for him."

Vijay does not agree that students resort to violence to work off their frustrations. He says students always start their protests in a peaceful way. But when the authorities do not care to listen to their demands, some of them get it into their heads to stop buses to force the authorities to appreciate the problems of students.

"Our experience," he says, "is that this method invariably proves effective. The day buses are stopped, the authorities walk into the university to talk to us."

But as a member of the ABVP, he says, he had never supported such techniques. "In fact, wherever buses were hijacked this year, I personally went to the college and got them released."

He does not agree with the view that students of Delhi University, or of any other university are immature. The role students played before and during the Emergency shows that students can also unite to face a dictatorial regime. Even today, he said, the students in Patna are fighting for a major cause (about job reservations).

He said that although the Government now in power had come into power with their support, they would contine to fight for the right causes. "On the issue of demonstrations before the Shah of Iran, for instance, Mr. Desai and Mr. Vajpayee were angry with us," says Vijay Goel. "But we insisted on following the right cause and protesting against the restrictions placed on Iranian students in India."

Amarjeet Kaur is one of the very few girls active in politics at Delhi University. She is the general secretary of the Delhi State Unit of the All-India Students' Federation and she is doing Law.

She feels that the majority of students in Delhi University are unaffected by politics. "As a majority of them belong to the middle-class they come here only to prepare for their careers. And their association with the University is only through classes and books," she says.

She suggests that students should be more politicalised so that they can take a more active role in the affairs of the nation. In the absence of such consciousness and without a united course of action, "our energy is wasted on trivial issues like adding coolers, DTC buses and cinema tickets."

Amarjeet Kaur is sad that girls on the whole do not take an active part in politics in Delhi University. "The reason is that most girls here are day scholars and they have to get home at a particular time. All those girls who are slightly active are either boarders or those like me whose parents do not impose restrictions on them."

Ramesh Rishikalp is a well-known debator of Delhi University. He is a student of M. Phil. in Hindi.

He refutes the idea that the leaders of the DUSU engineer agitations for political reasons. The student leadership always takes up the genuine problems of students, but the authorities, instead of listening to these demands, call them politically motivated, uncivilised and all sorts of names," he says.

He asserts that the authorities deliberately invite the wrath of students. When a demand is made it is ignored. Action is taken only when a threat is issued. But till the end the authorities try to stall decisions as long as they can.

"All that these university authorities are interested in is saving their jobs," he says. "They will try to please any government that comes to power and compromise with all of them."

Almost all meetings organised by the DUSU this year were disrupted by students belonging to the National Students' Union of India. Even when the Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, visited the University, NSUI workers staged a demonstration and many of them were arrested.

Talking about this, Geetanjali Maken, president of NSUI (Mrs. Gandhi Wing) said, "Our stand is that the present DUSU is not a legal body. We have also submitted a petition in court that elections were held before the admissions were complete and the DUSU is illegal. Till the decision of the court is announced we will not recognise the Students' Union."

She says the DUSU has hardly done anything for students. "At the peak of the academic year the University was closed for a month. Has the union done anything to compensate for the loss of time?" she asks.

"Throughout the year there have been strikes and agitations by one section of the students or the other," she continued. Even in St. Stephen's College there was a prolonged strike and the union hardly did anything to resolve the crisis."

She says the NSUI had been agitating for the fulfilment of the Janata party's promise to give employment to the unemployed. But nothing has been done about it so far.

In short, it looks like it will take a long time for peace to return to Delhi campuses.

Dr. B. M. Bhatia is an eminent educationist and as Principal of Hindu College he has had very wide administrative experience.

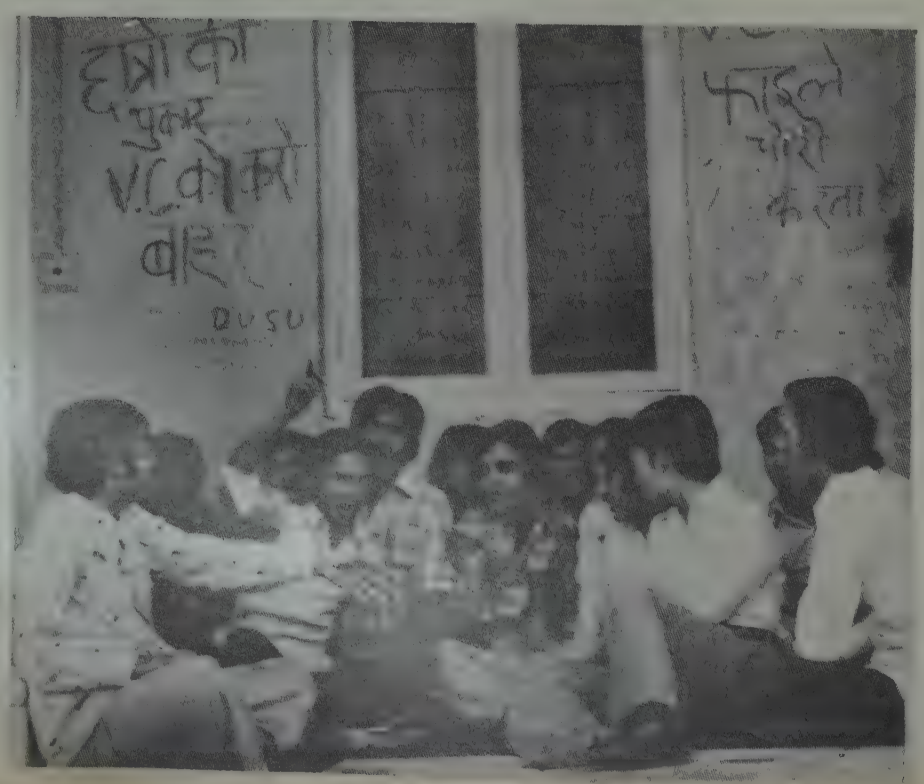
He says that the basis of student unrest everywhere is a certain amount of disillusionment with the education system and the bleak prospects the future holds for an educated student. But he feels that the main cause of unrest in campuses is the alienation between the teachers and the taught.

Talking from his personal experience, Dr. Bhatia says, "I have always found students very reasonable because I try to establish a personal touch with them."

Personal touch, according to

LEFT: Students of Dayal Singh College holding up D.T.C. buses in Delhi.

BELOW: D. U. students stage a dharna outside the vice-chancellor's office.



him, does not mean smoking with students or joking with them. "It means understanding the psychology of the student. They should get the feeling that teachers not merely look at us out look after us."

Wherever this personal touch is lacking politics starts playing a major role, says Dr. Bhatia. "By politics I do not mean only political parties. Even personal politics becomes a major disturbing factor."

Talking about the response of the authorities, Dr. Bhatia says, "The Vice Chancellor is handicapped by the sheer size of the University. He cannot keep personal touch with people and their various problems.

"The major ills of the University stem from the fact that the inbuilt system of federalism that was there earlier has been eroded. With all this centralised system—like the Academic Council, Students' Unions, etc. — principals are left with no power."

Tripathi says, "People may not know that when the opposition parties were holding meetings in October 1976, the majority of those present at these meetings were JNU students. It is also very important to know that throughout the emergency, neither Mrs. Indira Gandhi nor Sanjay Gandhi could dare enter the JNU campus."

In other words, the JNU students opposed dictatorship by all methods — non-cooperation, struggle, creating public opinion, and offering resistance.

According to Tripathi, students here have struggled to get whatever they have today. "If we have our own election commission, representation in the admission committee, syllabi formation, and other bodies, we have fought for and won these rights.'

Hari Ram Murthy is a Yuva Janata leader at JNU and took an active role in the demonstrations against the Shah of Iran. He says that they got involved in this issue after the Government issued a notice to Iranian students to stay within their place of residence during the Shah's visit.

Yuva Janata immediately issued a statement that this notice violated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of UNO guaranteeing expression of dissent on political issues. Later, the Yuva Janata staged an impressive demonstration at Connaught Place where a number of their volunteers were brutally beaten up. But Murthy says the protest was very effective because it united students on a very important issue. Moreover, the demonstration and protest stopped the Government from deporting the Iranian students.

He says that there are hardly any leftists at JNU. They are only pseudo-Marxists. The only good thing about JNU politics, according to him, is that there is no violence or goondaism here. All the agitations that the Union starts every year are only big "tamashas," according to him.

Poonam Mehra is a student of Afro-Asian languages at JNU. According to her, the reason for unrest among students is that every right has to be won by fighting the authorities. "If we have comparatively more participation by students in administration it is not a gift from the authorities," she says. "We have won them by fighting and militancy."

She says that when a student comes to JNU he feels he has unlimited freedom. But within two months he realises that he has to fight at every step if he wants to survive.

"The biggest weapon the teachers possess is internal assessment," she says. "Political victimisation is very easy here."

She refutes the widespread impression that girls take a very active role in politics at JNU. "Hardly 10 per cent of the girls here know what the political issues are. The others only follow what the boys do," she says.

According to Prabhati Nautiyal, another active student of JNU, the basis of all student trouble is political, consciously or unconsciously. The only special thing about JNU is that here issues are discussed and thought out properly. He says that democratic bodies like Student-Faculty Committees are quite active at JNU, but the difficulty is that they are only recommending bodies and their decisions are not binding.

About leftists at JNU, Prabhati says, "There are two groups of leftists — one is genuinely committed to ideology, but the more prominent is the other group which has only a fake commitment. They come from upper class families and they are released the very next day of their arrest."

The two groups, he says, are continuously clashing, with the latter group trying to finish the former.

Dr. P. N. Srivastava, the Rector of Jawaharlal Nehru University, denies that students of JNU are militant. "You will hardly find them either breaking or destroying anything. They never turn violent even at the height of an agitation. How can you call them militant?" he asks.

He agrees, however, that they react to national and international events. They discuss and pass resolutions. But this is only because they are more alive and alert to the political situation than the students of any other university," he says.

Dr. Srivastava is full of praise for JNU students. "They are basically very intelligent students," he says. "They take part in the deliberations of various bodies and our experience has been that their participation has been very fruitful. One thing remarkable about them is that they cannot be taken for granted, And this is how it should be. They argue issues in a logical way before reaching any conclusion."

He further says, "You must admit that they have never asked for postponement of examinations or increasing someone's marks or simpler question papers — issues which for students in other universities are major ones."

One reason for their balanced outlook could also be that they are quite sure of their employment prospects. Dr. Srivastava says that students of JNU have been doing very well in life and for the last few years they have started excelling even in competitive examinations."

Amitabh

REPORT FROM JNU CAMPUS

Because of the vast funds allotted to the Jawaharlal Nehru University for construction purposes the numerous scholarships offered for various courses, and highly subsidised lodging and mess rates, JNU has come to be regarded as a "white elephant."

Politically, JNU can claim to be one of the most active campuses. Since the beginning, JNU has been a leftist campus with each group trying to outdo the others in radicalism.

This year the JNU Students' Union, led by Sitaram Yechury of the SFI, led a crusade against the Guilty Four on the campus, which included the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B. D. Nag Chaudhari. The climax was the closing of the gates of the campus on the four guilty officials and declaring the campus "out of bounds" for them

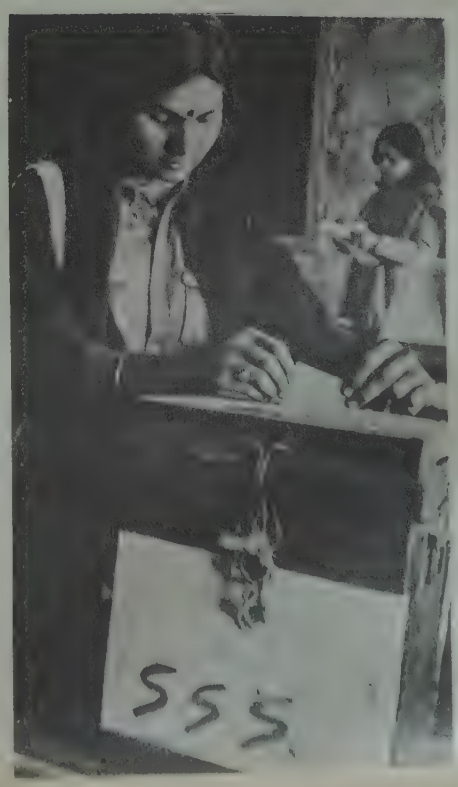
For 26 days the closure continued, although Sitaram maintained that the University was running and studies going on. Later, the JNUSU resigned and contested an election in which Sitaram won again. Sitaram Yechury contested three elections in one year and won all of them.

When the emergency was clamped on the country, the president of Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union was Devi Prasad Tripathi. His arrest was first ordered under DIR and later under MISA. He went underground and on August 11, when there was a massive raid on his hostel, he managed to escape. He was later arrested and kept in jail for one year.

Talking about the role of JNU students during the emergency,

ABOVE: Posters adorn the walls of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

BELOW: Three elections were held in one year at J.N.U.



Meals not ready again ...and the children will be home from school for their lunch.

If this happens you feel frustrated. Especially when you think how hungry the children will be.

What can you do? You have not wasted even a minute. So how do you cope up with this problem? Do not waste any more time. Buy a Marlex Pressure Cooker today. See how quickly you can cook the meals...and safely too.

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JUMBO IN THE NURSERY

Quick and easy-to-make wall decoration-cum-pad-and-pencil-holder to delight youngsters

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

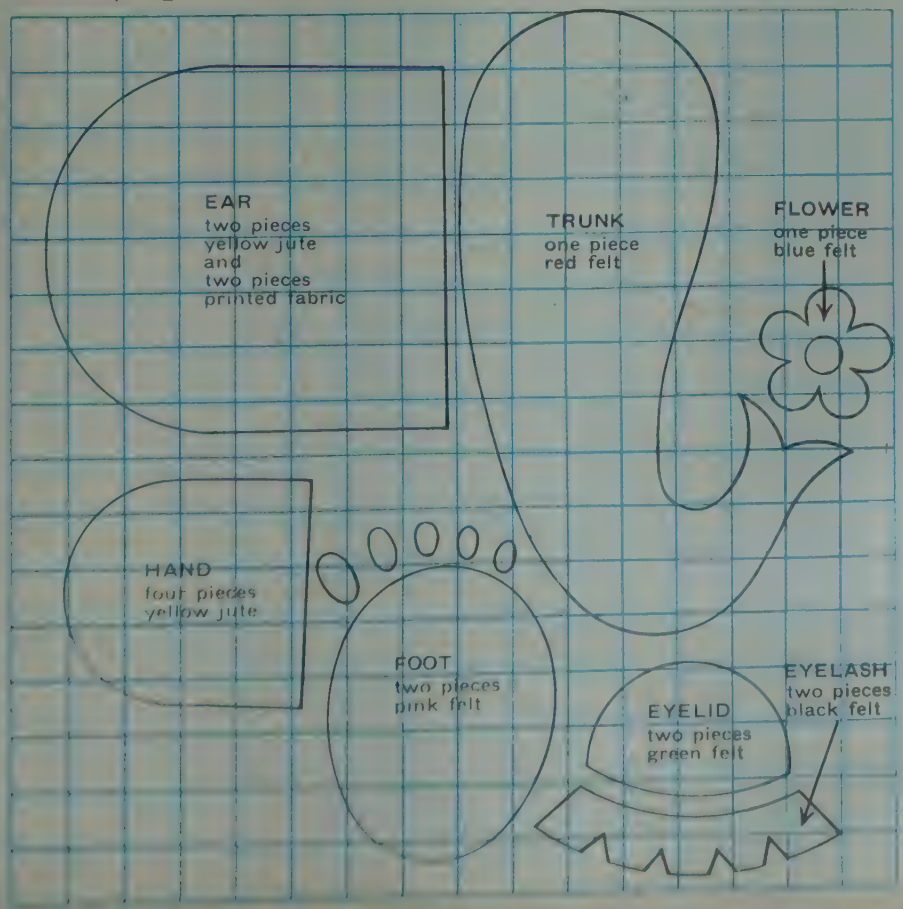
Yellow and turquoise jute material; scrap of printed fabric for the ears; felt pieces in red, blue, green, pink and black; velvet flowers and leaves for trimming the pocket; silk cord for the loop and an adhesive.

METHOD :

Cut out two pieces from the yellow jute material measuring 39 cms. x 16.5 cms. and one piece from the turquoise jute measuring 16.5 cms x 15.5 cms. From the felt pieces cut out the eyelids and lashes, trunk, feet and toes, and the blue flower — refer diagram.

Insert the turquoise jute piece between the two yellow jute pieces at the lower edge and machine all round leaving the top open. Turn the turquoise pocket inside out and iron it.
Fix the silk cord to form the loop for hanging.

SCALE $\frac{1''}{4} = \frac{1''}{2}$



In the same way machine the ears and hands and turn inside out.
Using very fine stitches or an adhesive, fix the different parts in place as shown in the picture. Finally trim the pocket with tiny velvet flowers and leaves.

Perviz Daruvala

Photograph : Farokh Reporter

STUDENT UNREST:

REPORT FROM CALCUTTA

The student population in Calcutta gets roughly segmented into a motley pot pourri of three lots: those who belong to the main heterogeneous body of the Calcutta University; an esoteric, defiant group at the University of Rabindra Bharati and the rest who go to Jadhavpur University. The student unions in all these academies are active, but whether their activities have promoted a healthy environment is greatly in question. Most of the students' unions existing in the three major universities in Calcutta still remain half-way houses of compromise and unrest, because of inbred rivalries, personal vendettas and their political stance.

Calcutta University is a sprawling antediluvian animal encompassing 223 undergraduate colleges that are flung all over the city and the suburbs. Calcutta University does not have a definite campus, though College Street, which harbours the postgraduate wing and the administrative departments, is the major focal point.

Each undergraduate college sports students' unions and these coalesce with the Calcutta University Postgraduate Students' Union whose office is housed in the Darbhanga building on College Street. Though students' unions wear a placid apolitical facade, all of them are backed inevitably by political forces and ideologies depend largely on the locality in which they are based and which political party dominates there. Except for a few isolated colleges, all the union presidents are local political agents' and academically very poor students.

Postgraduate classes this year began a few months ago as they had shut down because of a strike. On the first day of work the students canteen displayed an announcement by the Chhatra Parishad that Mr. Gautam Mukherjee, President of the Calcutta University Law College Students' Union, had died after having been kidnapped and whose injured body was found near the railway tracks in Sealdah.

The walls of the University building are covered with posters written in red ink. Most of them demand unconditional release of political prisoners. A professor commented that the posters reflect the changed political conditions in the state just after the national elections. The students have asked for fresh elections to the students' representative bodies. Elections to the students' unions were held five years ago and ever since, because of political pressures and constant skirmishes in the University, a fair election has never been held.

When Mr. Sambhu Datta, General Secretary of the Calcutta University Law College Students' Union, said that students' unions have played a very vital role in enquiring into the disorganised system of examinations, that the students' unions have questioned the Syndicate on rules that have gone against the interests of the student population, it sounded phony. Cheating and other unfair means of passing have been a major cause for disruption of examinations and what seemed at first to be a temporary dislocation, soon became a new and scandalous routine.

Now the Left Front students organisations are beginning to channelise the major force of student energy into a plausible and meaningful academic matrix which would benefit both the teacher and the taught. They are engaged in clearing out the debris that had accumulated in the campus since 1970-71. The task is stupendous as many students' unions have lost their credibility.

Dr. Sushil Mukherjee, Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University, comes into contact with the students' union representatives only when grants for so called cultural functions arise. Till now no formal budgets were presented by the students' unions and most of the money is unaccounted for.

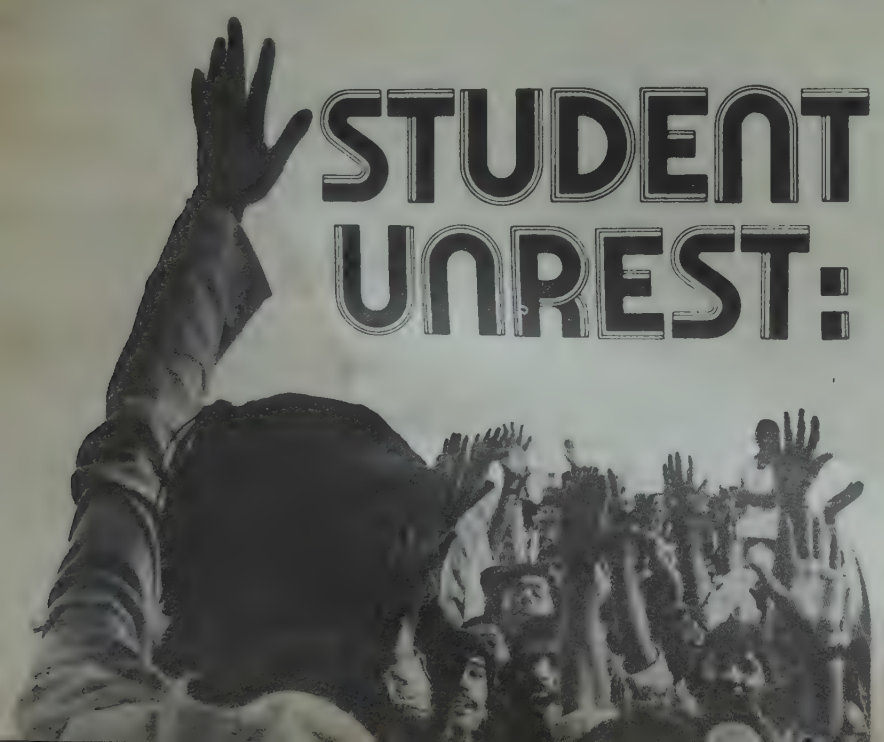
Dr. Mukherjee feels that students' unions are not really representative of students. He has grave doubts whether the money in the Students Aid Fund is rightly used. He is deeply grieved to know that many teachers, lecturers and professors actually motivate the students' unions to cause trouble. If students' unions were representative, a very much happier and healthier environment would have been created, says Dr. Mukherjee.

The students' leaders feel that the rot set in when a young Congress student leader, who later became a Minister, led in 1971 a deputation to Mr. Siddhartha Ray, then Union Education Minister and in charge of West Bengal affairs, to plead for the postponement of a university examination. Dr. Satyen Sen, former Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University, was called to Writers Building. Dr. Sen had to yield to the political pressure exerted by Congress leaders. Earlier, there had been examination postponements, but this was the first time that a political party organised such a move. Soon there were postponement of the MBBS and other examinations. Only the Science department remained an exception to this general rule.

Students' unions which were taken over through "sham" elections, imposed a "tax" for admission to colleges and universities. If a student looked somewhat affluent he was "taxed" more. According to a rough estimate several lakhs of rupees used to be collected in this manner throughout the State. In many reputed schools, including the Hindu School, the local Congress MLAs had their "quotas" for admission. Such forcible admission had lowered the standard of the institutions. Student leaders of the former ruling party sat for examinations in separate halls.

ABOVE: Mr. Sambhu Datta, Gen. secretary of the Calcutta University Law College Students' Union.

RIGHT: A blind student protesting against injustice at Calcutta University.



An "invisible" organisation used to "sell" questions before examinations and raise marks in answer papers. It operated in collusion with some employees of the Controller's department and students' union leaders.

Jadavpur University has emerged metaphorically from a baptism of fire after the reckless Naxalbari days. The students' union is more geared to represent the actual needs of the majority who study there, though politics is very much the backbone of its existence. Examinations are held more regularly and student unrest has considerably simmered down.

The formation of the University of Rabindra Bharati was a major mistake. Though it was originally envisaged to confer degrees only in the finer arts, slowly and unfortunately academic subjects became a part of the syllabus.

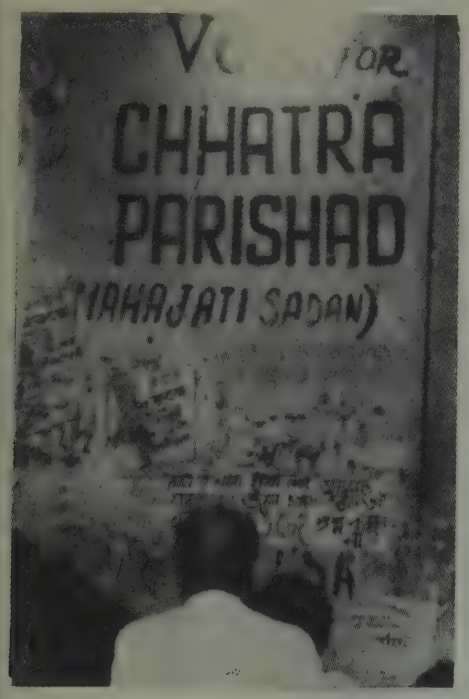
Housed in the ancestral home of poet Tagore in North Calcutta, Rabindra Bharati has, sadly, turned into a hotbed of political activism. The students' union had a major part to play in seeing that the previous Vice-Chancellor, Mrs. Rama Choudhury was ousted. Dr. Pratul Gupta, the new Vice-Chancellor, was not available for comment because he already has had his first major illness as soon as he took over! But his one comment that the students' union at Rabindra Bharati has played a detrimental role in the academic life of students and if they do not divorce themselves from politics things are bound to worsen, is a major pointer at the state of most students unions at present in Calcutta.

However, with a new Education Minister at the Centre and a new Government in the State, most students hope that a dependable mechanism might be devised for investigation and action to mitigate the festering conditions. Unless the most acute grievances of the student community are speedily removed, there is danger of the demand for redress being exploited by political forces.

There is a complex interaction between academic and political affairs. Political parties have in the past exploited the urge of students and teachers for wider involvement and free expression; often their demands have become a cloak for coterie rule. Countless young people have suffered and are still suffering as a result of misdirected student unions, reckless politicking and a near collapse of the universities' schedule of examinations. Indeed many careers may have been ruined.

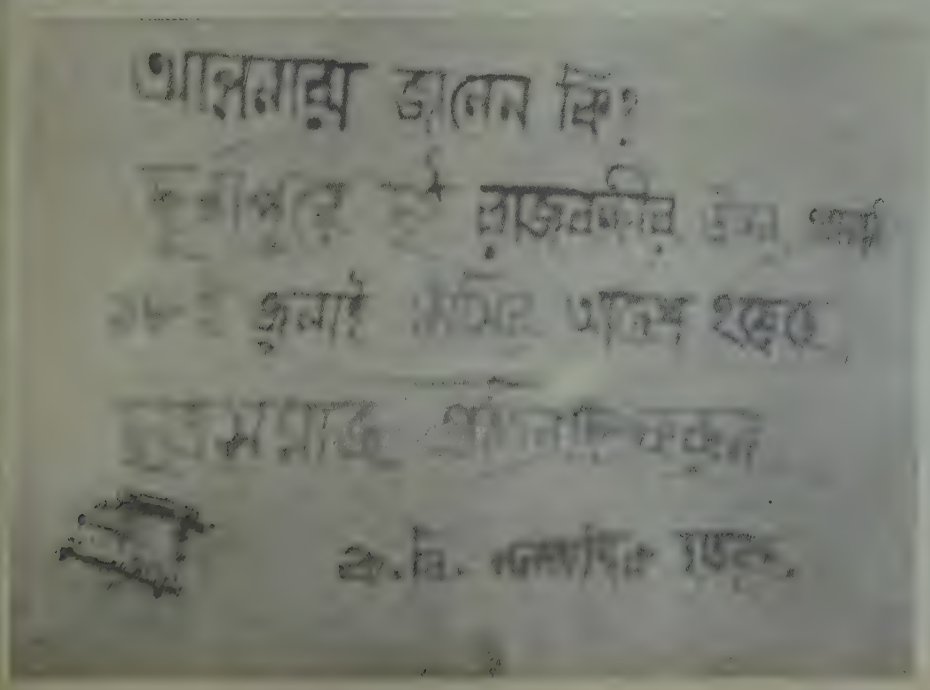
There are many daunting problems that the student community in Calcutta is facing, and unless the students' unions become an active agent to alieviate these problems, they will not be accepted or truly representative of genuine students.

Jayabrato Chatterjee



LEFT: A poster on a wall of the Calcutta University.

BELOW: A poster at the Jadavpur University demanding reprieve for two political prisoners.



BOMBAY UNIVERSITY KARAMCHARIS' AGITATION

Continued from page 11

ing from work was often forced. They would of course, be happier if they could get some money to better their economic positions, but the gains of their various strikes had got them only a host of disappointments and not a paisa of monetary benefit. Rather, they found themselves in debt because of loans which they had to take to meet the immediate requirements of their families. Why had this taken place? The reply was, "The union leaders have let us down."

The Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Ram Joshi, apparently sympathised with the employees and their demands and opined that if the Government of Maharashtra had left some of the demands to the University, it could have been possible to raise funds and meet some of the demands, but the matter was beyond his jurisdiction.

His suggestions were, however, ominous. The student community, he believed, should pressurise the employees to resume duties so that examinations are not further jeopardised. "After the examination period, let them continue their agitation," he said. The Vice-Chancellor is either ignorant or deliberately glossing over the fact that the only time the employees have any punch is during the examination period and to ask them to work diligently during the exams and to agitate when the government will be unconcerned, is cruel irony. Also, asking students to act as strike breakers when their long term interests are allied with those of the karamcharis, shows the V C. to be a faithful representative of the interests of the University bureaucracy.

Obviously speaking, the demands of the karmacharis are quite justified. As far as the University employees are concerned their pay scales were last revised as far back as 1966 according to the Badkas pay revision scheme. Even though the Bhole commission recommended revision of pay scales in 1976, the Government even after accepting this did not implement it. The increase in dearness allowance, which had been agreed to by the University Senate, also remained unimplemented.

As far as medical facilities go, the other universities of Maharashtra, namely Pune and Marathwada, are paying medical allowances to their employees. This is being denied to the employees of Bombay University. Also agreed to before the emergency was the children educational allowance. This is yet to be implemented. What other recourse have the employees except to agitate?

There was nothing left to negotiate and the Government was taking a rigid attitude towards the implementation of demands which had already been accepted. However, when the agitation did break out in November '77, instead of trying to resolve the issue, the Government tried to repress the employees by the promulgation of an order bringing them under the purview of the Essential Services Act, which took away the right to strike by the employees. Though this order was later withdrawn it exposed the extent of concern the Government has for the civil rights and livelihood of the people.

Even though the demands of the karamcharis are basically just and must be fought for, it is questionable whether the leadership of the karamchari unions is really fighting for the interests of members. In the case of the College Karamchari Union, the leader, Jagganath Jadav, twice withdrew agitations on flimsy pretexts. In the first instance in April '77, he claimed that "Vasantdada is an old friend of mine, and is willing to listen" and that "since there was a split among the students about supporting the strike" it was pointless going on! In the second instance in November '77 he withdrew the examination boycott on the plea that Vasantdada had withdrawn the application of the Essential Services Act to the employees.

The university employees union's leadership had also withdrawn its April '77 agitation on the basis of vague promises made by the Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly, which were anyway not kept. Was it the interest of the karamcharis and the students that made the leadership withdraw the agitations or were there party interests which had to be satisfied? For example, the launching of the November '77 boycott of exams was closely coordinated with the efforts of the Janata party's efforts to dislodge the Congress from power in Maharashtra. One is not claiming that the Congress represents the interests of the people, but what is obvious is that the real demands and aspirations of the people, in this case the karamcharis are often used for devious party and selfish interests.

It is true that conscious and organised efforts are required to improve the living conditions of the employees, but if this is to be realised, the employees must play a more conscious role in their own future. They should be alert in selecting their leadership and in deciding the tactics to be employed. In the case of the University employees, the leadership was directly or indirectly controlled by political parties, which usually, and at least in this case, clash with the interests of the employees. If this had been seen by the employees, disappointment would not have been their fate.

Vivek Phadke

THE LITTLE WOMAN

by Don Tobin

DO YOU THINK IT'S TOO LATE FOR A PERSON OF MY AGE TO CHANGE...?
OF COURSE NOT!
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO CHANGE IF YOU HAVE THE DESIRE AND THE WILL-POWER -
BELIEVE ME - WITH FAITH AND DETERMINATION A PERSON CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!
I'VE SEEN IT HAPPEN A THOUSAND TIMES!
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF AND NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN STOP YOU!
NOW, JUST HOW DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE YOUR WAYS?
IT'S NOT MY WAYS I WANT TO CHANGE - IT'S MY HUSBAND'S WAYS -
OH, DEAR! THAT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME -
I WAS AFRAID OF THAT -
6-27
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L. WOMAN

HA HA world of laughter

Teacher: "Johnny, what are the three great American parties?"

Johnny: "Democratic, Republican and cocktail."

* * *

He: "Please, darling, whisper those three little words that will make me walk on air."

She: "Go hang yourself."

* * *

Boy: "Dad, how do they catch lunatics?"

Dad: "With face powder, fancy dresses, and pretty smiles, my son."

* * *

Hank: "You used to : there was something about i you couldn't help loving."

Claire: "Yes, but it's spent now."

* * *

SNUFF MAKER: A m who puts his business someone else's nose.

* * *

MODERN BATHING SU Two bandannas and a worri look.

* * *

Housewife: "Why should big, strong man like you out begging?"

Hobo: "Well, lady, it's the only profession I know in which the gentleman can address a beautiful woman like you without an introduction."

* * *

A beautiful Hollywood actress was trying on a dress in the studio wardrobe department. "I don't like that colour," commented the designer. "Now if you'd wear a dress to match those stockings, you'd be a sensation."

"I certainly would," replied the actress. "I'm not wearing stockings."

* * *

"My wife," boasted the husband, with tongue in cheek, "is just as beautiful today as she was when I married her wenty years ago."

Then he added: "Of course, ow it takes her longer."

* * *

As a married couple reminced, the husband remarked, By the way, I wonder whatver became of the old-fashned girls who fainted when man kissed them?"

His wife gave him a withering look. "What I'd like to now," she retorted, "is what appened to the old-fashioned men who made them faint."

* * *

The stingy salesman, while on an out-of-town sales trip, sent his wife a cheque for a million kisses as an anniversary present.

The wife was quite annoyed and sent back a postcard: "Dear Dick, Thanks for the anniversary cheque. The milkman cashed it for me just this morning."

* * *

"My father always proposed a toast before he disciplined me."

"That's funny! What was it?"

"Bottoms up, son!"

* * *

G. K. Chesterton and several other literary figures were asked one evening what book they would prefer to have with them if stranded on a desert isle.

"The complete works of Shakespeare," said one writer without hesitation.

"I'd choose the Bible," interrupted another.

"How about you?" someone asked Chesterton.

"I would choose," replied the author, "THOMAS'S GUIDE TO PRACTICAL SHIPBUILDING."

Compiled by George Fegradoe

PARVEEN BABI:

THREAT TO HEMA AND ZEENAT

N. Bharathi

Parveen came into the room looking rather relaxed. The day before, she had spent Holi with some friends. The next day, a Sunday, was the once-a-week opportunity to get up late and not put on any make up throughout the day. Parveen Babi had just come back after seeing "Mera Gaon Mera Desh." "I saw it because I'm doing a film with Raj Khosla and wanted to see one of his films before beginning work."

Parveen sees Hindi movies in mini-theatres at private trial shows and "specially take time off to go to town and see the English movies. I just need an escort, that's all. I find it very necessary to see movies. For instance, after seeing 'The Gypsy Camp Vanishes Into The Blue,' if I had to design a gypsy's dress for one of my films, I'd be full of ideas." Incidentally, Parveen Babi thought the hero "too handsome for words" and "I'd love to play a gypsy girl like the type they showed in the film. I have always been fascinated by them. In Spain I spent all my time watching gypsies."

Looks like the Babi girl is really serious about her career now. There's less talk of personal hassles and more talk about films: "I have decided that it's not worth discussing one's personal life so openly. Nobody really understands you."

Gone is the light, come-what-may attitude towards her career. At the moment all magazines and papers are full of how nice Parveen has become and how she's a threat to Hema and Zeenat and how she has bagged the best banners in town. Parveen has succumbed to the two-shift pattern of work, but says, "I'm looking forward to the time when we will make films in three months and work only on one project at a time. I have watched Kabir at work, and it's so terrific when you can concentrate and give all your best to just one film."

However, Parveen knows that at the moment there's no such hope. She describes herself as "a commercial commodity" and works along the set lines of commercial Hindi cinema. The trouble with two shifts, she pointed out, was that if you walked out of the first producer's sets at the right time, he'd spread the word that you were troublesome. "And if you stayed on at the first shooting to please him you'd be late for the next man's shooting and he'd go around saying that you're unprofessional and unpunctual. For this I really admire Shashi Kapoor and the way he handles several shifts daily and still retains his cool."

Parveen Babi who, until recently, was called a troublesome actress, says she has finally learnt the ways of the film industry, but it took time. "As a newcomer, if I didn't like a dress I'd say so straightaway and earn a bad name. It's only with experience that you learn not to say anything openly."

Some producers, she felt, had this habit of maligning the name of an artiste to suit themselves. "If a producer wanted to ease you out of his film it would be so simple and straightforward to tell you that and take someone else. But no. Instead he starts a campaign against you and talks to other producers about your tantrums, etc. I really don't understand why it's like this in this industry."

There was, for instance, Sanjay Khan whose "Chandi Sona" was stuck for want of funds. "But instead of admitting it, the blame was put on me. I met a distributor who asked me why I wasn't giving any dates for 'Chandi Sona.' I had given 15 days, which they had just cancelled. And then there were days when I was committed elsewhere and these people came at the last minute asking me to report for work the next day. When I heard about all this I was hurt. I was new to the industry and it hurt like mad. But now these things no longer matter to me."

In recent times two actresses who're being closely watched are Zeenat Aman and Parveen Babi. It's amusing to note that Zeenat Aman is doing Sanjay Khan's "Abdullah" (though it was Parveen in "Chandi Sona"), while Parveen is in Manoj's 'Kranti" (though it was Z. Aman in "Roti Kapada aur Makan"). Almost as if they've swapped banners! Parveen said she didn't know why she wasn't in "Abdullah." "I haven't thought about it that way. It was never offered to me in the first place."

The controversy about Zeenat and Parveen continues "though we ourselves aren't at loggerheads. I met her just two days ago and I like her a lot. It's people around us who're imagining things."

Another actress Parveen is working with rather compatibly is Hema Malini in "Kranti." When Parveen injured her finger very seriously on the sets of the film, it was Hema who cried more than Parveen. An anxious Hema Malini had phoned her regularly and visited her twice while the finger healed.

Actresses are usually criticised for the entourage they have around them while shooting. Parveen takes her hairdresser and make-up man everywhere. "After a while you realise there's nothing wrong with having an entourage with you. After all you are working very hard and there's nothing wrong in wanting to live comfortably for as long as your career lasts."

Parveen Babi lives with her mother in a Juhu flat where the servant has strict instructions to screen visitors before allowing them to enter. "There have been too many murders recently in this vicinity," she explained.

Done up with the bare minimum furniture, a beautiful statue of the Buddha occupies a prominent corner. The Buddha is perhaps the only evidence of Parveen's once close association with Kabir Bedi. The Buddha and Buddhism came to her from the late Mama Bedi, a genuinely pious and noble lady.

I AM AN UNWANTED MOTHER

I've tried so hard to be nice to them. Time and again, I have ignored the sullen silences, the stony looks that pass between them when I sit in their midst. There was a time when Praful doted on me, ran to me for advice every time something momentous was at hand. But today I am a cast off old rag that nobody wants.

I suppose other mothers have been treated the same way — somehow relegated when the son you have fondled and forged into a man, grows away and builds a shell around himself just because he has found himself a woman.

I have become a stranger to my son. Now when he comes home from work he hardly notices my eager face in the doorway. He always pushes past me and goes inside in search of Ruha. Then my shoulders droop at the rebuff and I lose myself in the kitchen rustling up a cup of tea and some snack for my tired son, but listening all the while to the sound of their excited voices in the adjacent bedroom.

Then I remember my husband and shed a silent tear for what might have been. I remember the night the storm broke and our desperate drive through the windlashed country side. Not a shelter in sight for miles and miles. Nothing but the driving wind and the sheets of rain. Sometimes I think the storm broke just to snatch my husband away from me.

Praful was only two years old then. When the car broke down with no hope of help, my husband left us in the dubious security of the leaking window panes and leather seats to trudge through the downpour in search of a petrol pump. I urged him to hurry back, shouting to make myself heard above the roar of the wind, while Praful wailed and clung to me. There was no food with us and we were marooned like this for a good six hours.

The lashing rain persisted. Across the road trees had fallen, dragging the electric wires to the ground. Praful and I waited in the car the whole night and well into half of the next day, but still my husband did not return. Oh God, I prayed desperately, let him come to no harm. I am too young. I have not even begun to live life to the full But God was uncaring.

At about 2 o'clock in the afternoon the next day, the rain ceased. I got out of the car and staggered half a mile leaving Praful asleep in the car. When I had almost given up hope of finding signs of life, I came upon a lorry stuck in the dirt by the roadside. Two men were trying to extricate it, placing leaves and sticks under the wheels to prevent it sinking still further.

I sobbed out my plight to them. One of them trudged back with me to the stranded car and carried the child back to the lorry. They made me comfortable in the back and gave Praful and me bits of dry chappaties to eat. Even that was welcome after near starvation for so many hours. I never saw my husband alive again. Some villagers brought news of a man who had been electrocuted by trailing live wires sometime during the night. Even before they described him I knew instinctively that it was my husband.

There was no solace in the wilderness. Only the compassion of two lorry drivers who had shown me some warmth and the curious concern of a half naked crowd of villagers who materialised as if from nowhere when they brought my husband's body and laid it at my feet. I was so shocked, I couldn't even cry. I just hugged Praful, anxious to spare him the agony of loss. But he was too young to understand the tragedy.

I had no one to turn to. Ours had been an impetuous love marriage, rushed into without the blessings of our parents. His people had disowned him completely and mine were so poor they wouldn't have been able to help even if they wished to. I went back to my lonely flat and tried to make some kind of life for Praful and myself. I had a little education and now I put it to use. I did a shorthand-typing course to supplement my education and brought mother to stay with me.

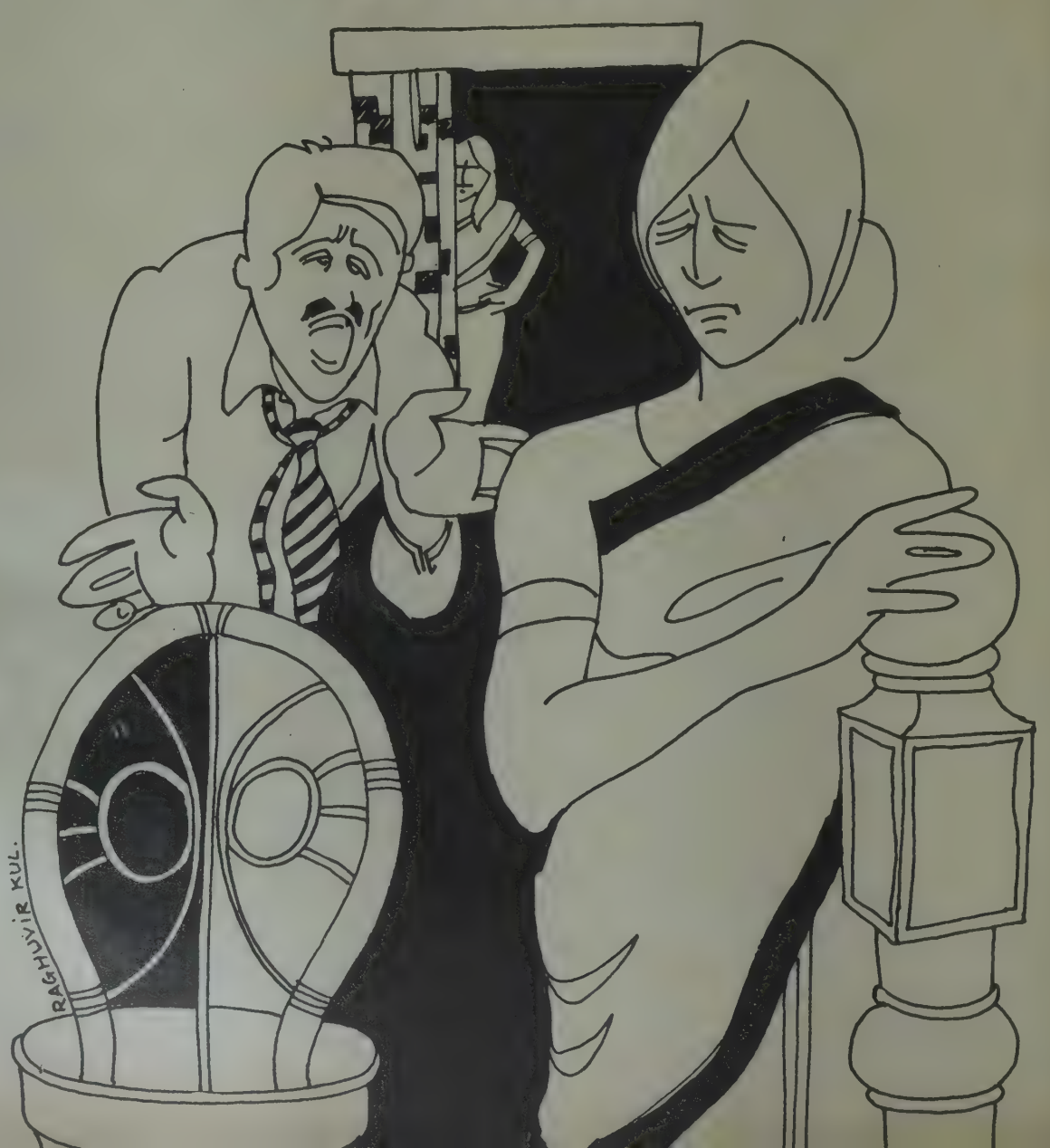
Widowed young, I brought up my only son, toiled to feed and educate him, but married now, he has no use for me

But she couldn't live with me for long. Father took ill suddenly and she had to rush to his side. He died soon after and she never got over the shock. She is alive even today, but she is like a child: her memory is failing and she can do only the simplest kinds of work. She doesn't live with me any more but with relatives in the village, who treat her with scant respect. She slogs for them, as much as she can, which is not much, and they keep flinging jibes at her for being nothing but a burden.

When I think of her, I wonder if I am not better off. At least I am in full possession of my senses. Or perhaps it is only a question of degree. Sometimes when I am in Ruha's presence and Praful is away, she does manage to make me feel a liability she'd rather be rid off.

One day she said to me, "Mother, why don't you go away to your mother for a while? Just for a holiday. The change may do you good."

Imagine foisting myself on mother's benefactors when there is already one mouth too many to feed! But can a city bred girl who has never known want or deprivation, understand all these things? Can she know what it is to be suddenly struck by afflic-



tion at the youthful age of twenty-three? Can she know how I struggled to bring up single-handed the strong and healthy man who is now her husband, giving him the best years of my life?

"I can't go to mother," I replied, but didn't give her a reason. I felt she would not understand the kind of poverty in which I had lived.

"Why?" she asked. "Can't you leave your son alone even for a minute? Don't you understand that two young people must have privacy?"

"Have I ever interfered in your life?" I asked. "Made decisions for you, tried to foist my will on you?"

"But I hate it," she screamed, "when you stand behind curtains and eavesdrop ... hear every private word Praful whispers to me."

I was aghast at her words. I felt as if I had been slapped. She was asking me to go away. But where could I go? I didn't work anymore. Ever since Praful got a job, I had given up my own to stay home and keep house for him. When he fell in love and told me he was planning to get married, I had celebrated the occasion with him, not wanting him to suffer the deprivation of parental support as I had during my own impetuous marriage.

In the beginning I thought it was only Ruha who wanted me to go away. I did not know that she had turned Praful so much against me that even he shared her desire. One night they had a party for a few of their friends. The revelry went on till well beyond midnight. A small flat reverberates with noise. I felt as if a thousand blows were being rained on my head. I tossed and turned, unable to sleep.

Finally, I shuffled into the hall, my hair awry, my eyes smarting with the bright lights. The chattering voices suddenly ceased and a million eyes, it seemed, were focused on me. I felt like an actress of yesteryear, now gone to seed. The speakers blared with stereophonic brazenness: "Where did love go?"

"Do you mind," I asked, "turning down the volume?" Somebody nearest shut off the sound. A few people conghed in embarrassment, Praful said in a choked voice: "This is my mother." A few heads nodded a greeting. Some mumbled a "hello" but mostly they took it as a signal to rise. They left in twos and threes, bidding muffled goodbyes at the door, their gaiety suddenly throttled by my descent.

When they had all gone, Praful swung on me angrily. "Mother," he cried, "Can't I even lead my life the way I please?"

"My head hurts," I said softly. "For heaven's sake, the pain is killing me. It is two o'clock in the morning."

"I know," he said, "but you had no business to interfere just now. What will my friends feel?"

"They have mothers, too," I cried. "They will understand."

"They won't," he persisted. "They live and move in an altogether different environment. Society is changing all the time. Maybe you didn't dance till the wee hours of the morning. It is a way of life to us. Besides, there was just no need for you to get so excited. After all we only do it about once a week, not every damn night."

"You would do it every damn night if you could afford it," I screamed, overcome with fatigue.

"Afford it?" he cried, passionately. "God knows how many things we have had to give up because of you. Don't think it is easy to make ends meet in a big city."

"Don't tell me," I cried. "I've been doing it for much longer than you."

"Then you know how much it costs to maintain three, you know how we've had to postpone having a baby."

"On account of me?" I cried aghast.

"Yes," he said.

"If you have fewer parties," I explained. "maybe you'll have more money."

"If you object to my little pleasures so much, why don't you go away, we are not tying you down here!"

Ruha touched his arm.

"That's enough, Praful," she said and threw me a glance of pity. She led him away to their private sanctuary and I wept unashamedly feeling a desolation I had never experienced before.

I didn't sleep the whole night. I tried to take my mind off the haunting thoughts of past sacrifices and shattered dreams to face reality boldly. My son had, over the years, somehow turned into a stranger. Maybe it had not happened suddenly but slowly and imperceptibly, so that I had not been even aware of the change in our relationship. And now he didn't even want me in the house.

When he saw me all packed to leave the next day, he did not try to stop me. He was all set to go to office.

It was Ruha who came up to me, laid her head on my shoulder and cried, "Mother, don't go, we're sorry." But Praful didn't say a word. I drew my hand over her head with gentle affection. I didn't hate her. I didn't even hate him. I could not analyse my feelings at this stage.

"I must go Ruha," I said. "Praful and you have your own lives to lead."

"Do you want any money?" he asked.

Those were the only words he uttered to me.

"No," I replied. "I'll collect some from my bank account on the way to the railway station."

He didn't even ask me where I was going. Maybe he didn't care.

At the bank, I drained the account of every paisa. Then I bought a ticket to mother's village. She was surprised to see me. Even in her present senile state, she knew who I was. She didn't speak. Tears just flowed down her withered cheeks.

"I'm going to keep you with me, mother," I said. "We are going away from here." She looked at me vaguely.

Today, I have a full-time job in Sholapur, in a private concern which was looking for someone experienced when I came along. I have engaged an ayah to look after mother and we live in two rooms built on somebody's terrace. And you won't believe this, but I'm happier than I've ever been for a long long time.

Perhaps it comes from looking after those who have nurtured and fostered you when they were hale and hearty and you were helpless, a sense of fulfilment that runs deep into one's heart. I did not know how shabbily I was treating mother when I left her with relatives in a remote village. I could not realise the enormity and pain of total and complete rejection of this sort, till Praful opened my eyes with his own betrayal of me.

QUIZ

HEGMAN

1. Can acetic acid safely be used in food and eaten?

2. How many queens have ruled France?

3. Why is the Equator so called?

4 What is the difference between bingo, dingo and lingo?

5. Can Christmas and New Year ever come in the same year?

6. What is the name of the peninsula comprising Spain and Portugal?

7 Which fruit was once known as love-apple?

8. The headquarters of the Central Railway is Bombay, where is the headquarters of the Western Railway?

9. In the world of cricket, which two teams play each other for the Irani cup?

10. Who painted 70 pictures in the last 70 days of his life and shot himself at the age of 37?

11. Mahjabeen was the real name of a famous Hindi film actress. What was her screen name?

12. Who married Anne Hathaway?

13. In the world of nursery rhymes and fairytales, who exchanged a cow for a bag of beans?

14. True or false: The common house fly has four legs.

15. Who made a fortune out of a mouse and a duck?

16. What is Arithmania?

17. Arrange in the order of their birth. Plato, Socrates, Aristotle.

18. Who is never mentioned in the Bible by name, yet suffered a death different from that of any other person?

19. In French history, who was the Dauphin?

20. Which word(s) in the English language rhymes with orange?

ANSWERS

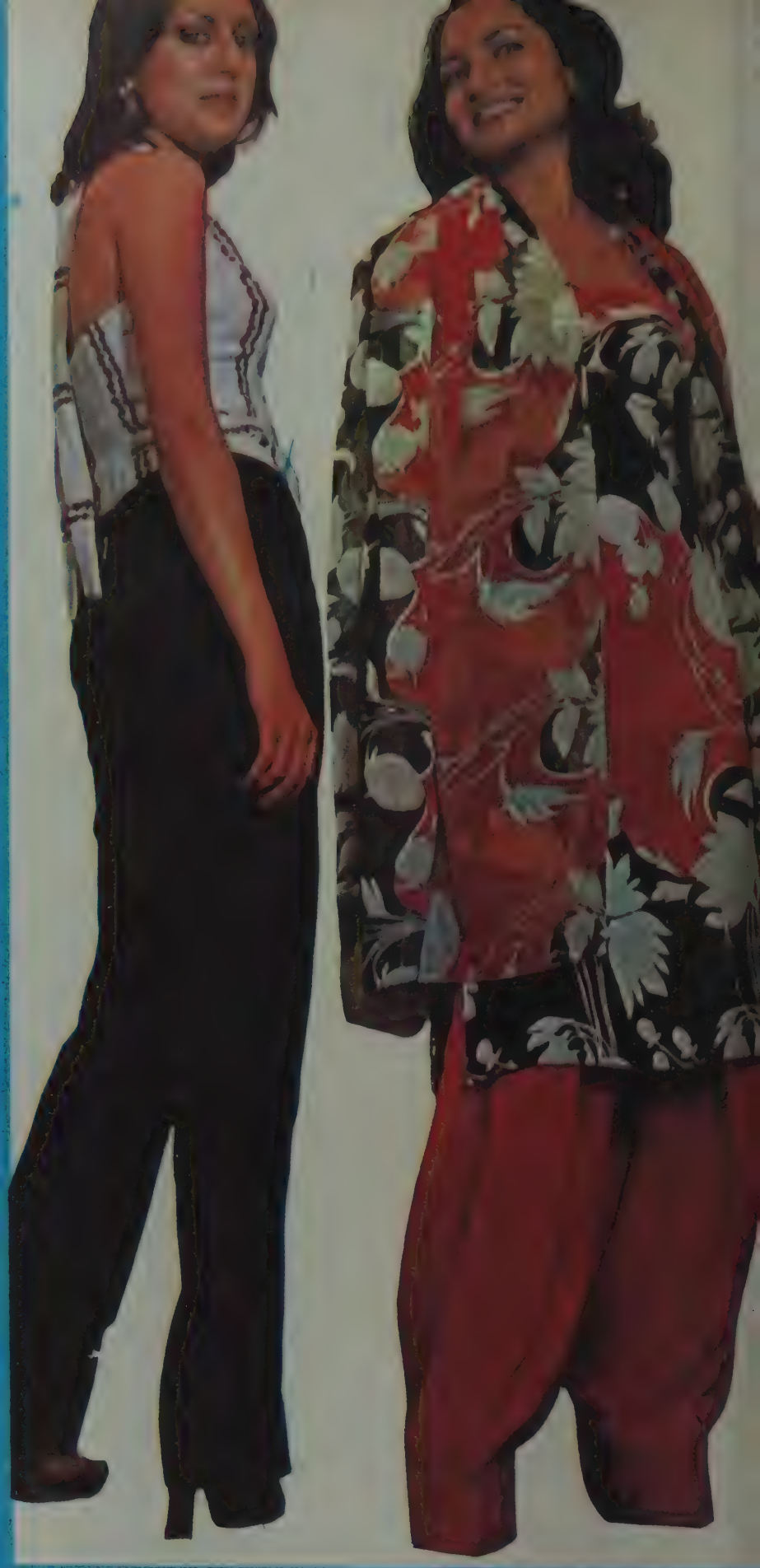
1. Yes, vinegar is one form of acetic acid.
2. France has never had a Sovereign Queen.
3. Because it is equidistant from the poles.
4. Bingo is a game, dingo is an Australian wild dog, and lingo is a colloquial language.
5. Every year!
6. The Iberian peninsula.
7. The tomato.
8. Bombay itself.
9. The winner of the Ranji Trophy vs the Rest of India.
10. Vincent Van Gogh.
11. Meena Kumari.
12. William Shakespeare.
13. Jack of "Jack & the Beanstalk" fame.
14. False, it has six legs.
15. Walt Disney: Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck.
16. An irrepressible desire to count objects.
17. Socrates, Plato, Aristotle.
18. Lot's wife, she was turned into a pillar of salt.
19. The eldest son of the King of France.
20. None.

FASHION OF THE MONTH

WIN-A-WARDROBE!

This is the fifth of 12 fashion features which will enable you to Win A Wardrobe from Delhi's popular SOPHISTICATION Boutique. It's a fashion wardrobe for the woman who values easy-going every-day outfits. Flounce through the summer, prettier than ever in these crisp, cool cottons with prints and colours to suit the warm April evenings. Mulmuls have a fresh eye-appeal right from your morning coffee sessions to window shopping through the day. So, start collecting your coupons now before the summer slips by, for you may be one of the lucky winners of these marvellous range of outfits.

A minimum of 10 coupons must be sent to us together, out of serial nos 1 to 12. This unique scheme was announced in our issues dated December 3 and 10, 1977.



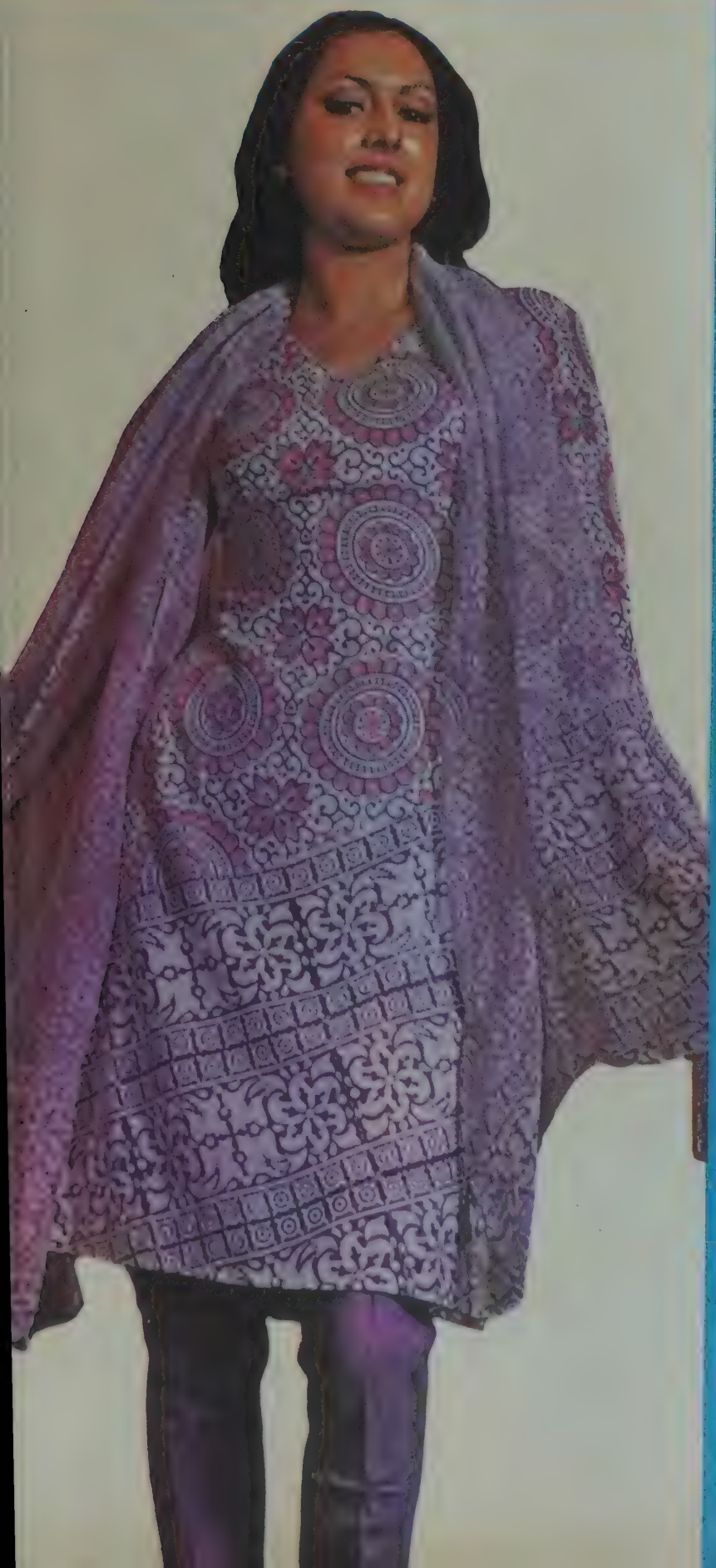
LEFT : A perfect pair! Mother wears a dainty, printed chiffo saree in turquoise for a sophisticated evening, while the daughter matches her mother's turquoise shade in a pretty dress with a printed shirred front and pretty printed frills at hemline.

ABOVE : All dressed up for a morning coffee! The young lady is in a bosky salwar kameez ensemble. Widely printed in bold floral pattern in striking combination of red, black and white, it is set off by a plain red salwar with matching printed dupatta. While the black parallel trousers can tea with white striped halter top, with a special jacket style cut, it is right for warm April evenings!

Photographs : Harbans Mody

ELOW: Back in churidars! For young college girls, a lilac
rinted mulmul kurta with matching plain churidars.
'ear it with matching printed dupatta for college shows
ıd get-togethers.

GHT: Herald in summer in cool, crisp mulmuls.
inted saree in red, white and black shows off the
rgeous pallav with an unusual print, looking
ch with floral design in stripes. Blossom into summer,
contrasting shades of green with a pleat
fferent in dark green striped pattern.



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Eve's Weekly / SOPHISTICATION

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   1st Prize: Rs. 5000; 2nd Prize Rs. 2500; 3rd Prize Rs. 1500 PLUS ten consolation prizes Rs. 100 each.
2. Grand Fashion Show will be held by Sophistication/Eve's Weekly around February 1979. The three winners will be invited. They will be given return Railway Fare plus Rs. 200 for expenses.
3. A minimum of 10 coupons, out of coupons numbered 1 - 12 must be sent, **in one lot**, after the publication of the 12th feature in November to The Editor, Eve's Weekly Ltd, Peraj Building, Bombay Samachar Marg, Bombay 400 023.

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WORK EXPERIENCE: a fiasco

Miriam D'Souza

AN EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL PLAN GONE AWRY

Work Experience is a wonderful idea. Unfortunately, it is not working. "Its implementation is a fiasco," said one principal forcefully. Numerous educationists I interviewed also felt the same way about it.

Work Experience is part of the much debated 10 + 2 + 3 system. It was introduced to make education more realistic—by integrating work and study. Students were to be given a wide variety of jobs to help them discover their aptitudes and interests. This, it was hoped would stop the blind rush to college. To cater to students who did not have an aptitude for studies, an infrastructure of trade schools was to be set up.

Successful implementation, however, calls for numerous facilities which the schools just do not have. In order to give students a realistic attitude to manual labour, it is essential that adequate facilities and tools be made available. "From where can I get 300 radios for my students to repair?" demanded a principal who had taken Radio Repairing.

Work Experience projects are often selected on the basis of what the teachers can handle rather than with the students' benefit in mind. Many boys' schools, for example, teach Preparation of Bread and Biscuits simply because the majority of their staff are women who know a bit of cooking.

Real labour means noise. It would, therefore, require a separate workshop. So schools prefer to select projects like Doll-making, Needlework, Book-binding, Electrical Repairs, etc. which can be done in the classroom.

Principal's Defence

The government just draws up a curriculum and pushes it on to the schools, which have to manage it as best they can, principals told me in defence. Teachers ought to have been trained in Work Experience projects **before** it was introduced in schools. Till today, however, it has not been made part of the curriculum for Dip. Ed. and B.Ed.

The government does hold eight to 15-day Orientation Courses in various projects for teachers. These, however, are more theoretical than practical. Can one learn Pot Culture or Radio Repairing in a week or two? As one teacher laughingly put it, "I learnt how to open out a radio, but not how to put the parts back again."

Can't schools employ qualified workmen and technicians on a part-time basis? They can, but really good people are not attracted by the meagre salary stipulated for such teachers. For a minimum of 15 to 17 periods a month, they are paid a gross salary of Rs. 102 (Rs. 60 basic and Rs. 42 D.A.) Apart from not being entitled to any allowances, should they earn D.A. on a full-time job elsewhere, they disqualify for the D.A. of Rs. 42!

Greater Co-ordination Needed

If Work Experience is to be successful, it should provide the answer to a felt need. Research should be done to find out in which fields people are needed most and how students can train for these jobs. There should also be greater coordination between the government, industries, parents and schools. Principals came forward with various suggestions:

"Most often it is the parents rather than the children who are keen on a college education. Parents, therefore, need to be educated so that they encourage their children to explore new fields instead of crowding professions which are already choked," said Mrs. Bharucha of Bai Avabai F. Petit High School Bandra. "In France, children are given an aptitude test at the age of 12. In our country, at least in Std. X, vocational guidance should be compulsorily introduced. At the same time, parents should be called in and made to realise that their child can make a success of one line but will fail in another."

"Work Experience can be made more effective," said Sr. Maria Rosa of Apostolic Carmel High School, Bandra, "if children are exposed to different work situations. They ought to see professionals at work—doctors, nurses, lab. technicians, secretaries, journalists, factory workers, etc. This will help them to choose what kind of training they would like to have. Unfortunately, we can not take them to many places because of lack of funds.

"Students of Std. X finish their exams in March, which means that they have three months' holiday, before school starts. Instead of giving them such a long vacation, the government should make it compulsory for students to put in one month's practical work," said Mrs. P. Sanghvi, Samarth Vidyalaya High School, Kalina. "The government should arrange with establishments or technical institutes for students to work there for a few hours a day. Alternatively, social institutions can run one-month intensive courses in various projects —at government cost, of course."

"To expose students to the real world of work, each industry should be requested to adopt one school," said Mr. M. D. Kulkarni of D. S. High School, Sion. "This is being done in Germany and should be implemented here. There are quite a few unskilled jobs that children can do. While at work, they also get a chance to watch the experts. An hour or two once a week is enough. I have myself tried out this experiment by sending my students to banks, automobile factories and textile firms in and around Sion. If, however, industries are not keen on the idea, there is another alternative. Schools in a given area should get together and set up a workshop properly equipped with tools, reference books, etc. These workshops can be used in rotation by all schools forming a group."

Practical Implementation

If the government is really serious about Work Experience, it should not merely lay down theoretical rules but should provide for practical implementation. To begin with, schools can perhaps be given a special grant for Work Experience so that projects can be properly planned and effectively worked out. The heavy syllabus can easily be reduced, so that students have more time for Work Experience.

While a wonderful idea in theory, Work Experience unfortunately is not being brought to fruition. Because, education should have not only a clear out aim, but a policy in keeping with that aim.

I can now understand why one principal flatly refused to give me an interview. "Work Experience is definitely a very good thing and I should not like to give you a wrong impression," he said. "Why don't you go to a school where they are doing some real work?"

I tried, but without much success

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When days are hot and humid, what could be more nourishing than light and nutritive cold salads! Salads will get you compliments only if they are served fresh and colourful. Try to be adventurous with salads and give them your personal touch with a variety of vegetables and fruits, fish or meat, or mould them up individually and turn them into a meal or serve as an accompaniment. Whichever salad you decide to make, see that it is fresh, crisp and full of colours so that everyone will want to eat. To make them more appetising, serve them with delicious hot hamburgers.

CRUSHED WHEAT AND CHICKEN SALAD

250 grams crushed wheat
1 cup chicken, shredded
2 tomatoes
1 cucumber
2 green chillis
1 bunch spring onions
1 bunch coriander leaves
Juice of 3 lemons
1 cup olive oil or salad oil
1 tsp. peppercorns, crushed
Salt to taste
Few lettuce leaves

Put the wheat in a bowl, cover with cold water and refrigerate for an hour before needed. Prepare a dressing by mixing the lemon juice, olive oil and pepper.

Cut the tomatoes and cucumber into very small pieces. Chop the coriander and onions. Slice the green chillis. Drain the water from the wheat and squeeze out any remaining liquid. Mix the wheat with all the other ingredients in a bowl, pour the dressing over it and mix well. Arrange a bed of lettuce on a platter and pile the wheat salad in the centre.

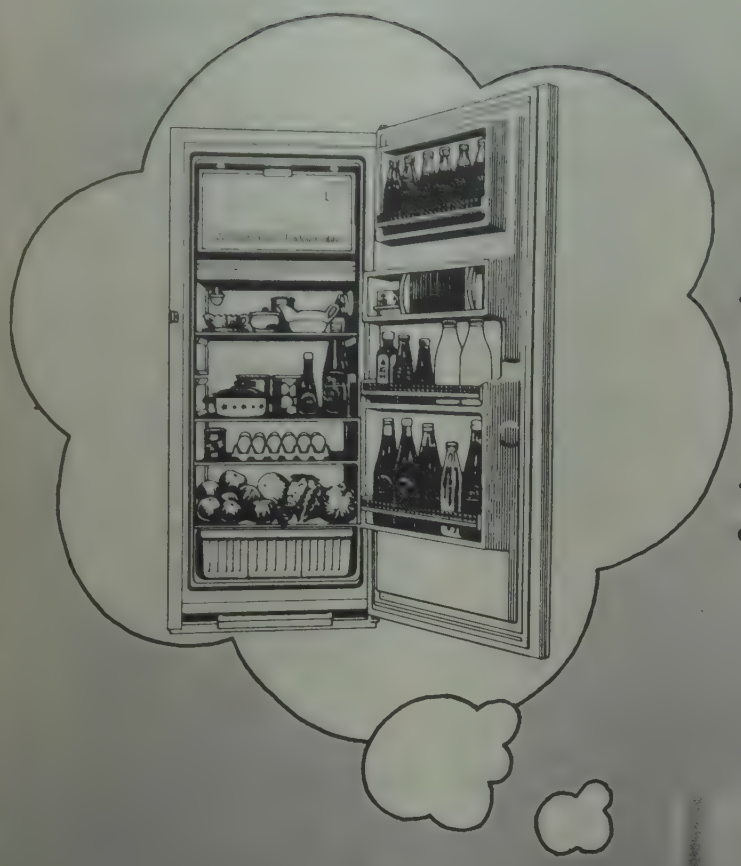
BORSCH JELLIED SALAD

360 grams consomme
90 grams lemon flavoured gelatine
180 grams drained cooked beet roots
1½ tbsps. vinegar
2 green chillis, chopped
240 grams cabbage, finely shredded
1 tbsp. onion, grated
1 tsp. salt
Dash of pepper
A few lettuce leaves
Sour cream dressing
Water

Heat consomme and enough water to make 2 cups liquid, then pour this liquid over gelatine and stir till gelatine dissolves. Add vinegar and chillis until syrupy. Stir in beet roots, onion, cabbage, salt and pepper into chilled gelatine then pour the mixture into a square pan or mould and chill until firm. Shred lettuce, unmould salad and garnish with sour cream.

BRINJAL SALAD

2-3 brinjals, medium sized without seeds
2 onions, medium sized
1 bunch coriander leaves
2-3 green chillis
½ tsp. black pepper, powdered
1 tbsp. vinegar or sour lime juice
tbsps. salad oil



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1½ tsp. sugar
Salt to taste

Bake the brinjals and scoop out the pulp. Cut onions very fine; chop coriander leaves and mix well with the pulp, and the rest of the ingredients. Refrigerate for an hour or more before serving.

PINEAPPLE SUPREME.

1 pineapple
2 cups celery, chopped
1½ cups mayonnaise
2 cups chicken, cooked, diced
2 tbsps. parsley minced
Salt and pepper to taste

Halve the pineapple lengthwise and scoop out the fruit carefully. Chop up the pineapple pieces into small bits. Blend together the chopped pineapple, celery, chicken and minced parsley. Mix in the mayonnaise and a little salt and pepper if necessary. Put the mixture into the pineapple shells and just before serving, place them in the oven for 10 minutes. This dish may be served chilled if preferred.

STUFFED TOMATO SALAD

6 medium-sized ripe tomatoes
150 grams cream and cheese
5 hard boiled eggs, chopped
2 tbsps. spring onions, chopped
Salt and pepper
2 tbsps. green pepper chopped
Little milk or cream
½ cucumber, chopped
1/3 cup salad dressing
Lettuce leaves.

Peel tomatoes, cut a slice from the top and scoop out the centres. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Turn them upside down (scooped side on the plate) and chill. Meanwhile, blend the cheese with enough cream or milk to soften. Line the tomato cups with cheese. Combine all the remaining ingredients and fill tomato cups. Chill well. Serve on lettuce leaves.

SHRIMP SALAD

4 cups shrimps, boiled, cleaned
2 potatoes
¼ cup walnuts, chopped
1 cup mayonnaise
½ cup chilli sauce
2 dashes tabasco sauce
Pickled beetroot and olives or 2 tomatoes.
½ cup mushroom caps, halved and cooked
4 tbsps. sherry (optional)
½ cup chicory
Butter
Salt to taste
Lettuce leaves
1 tbsp. parsley, chopped

Boil, peel and dice potatoes. Saute walnuts in a little butter. Make a dressing with the mayonnaise, salt, chilli sauce, tabasco sauce and sherry. Mix the shrimps, potatoes, cooked mushrooms and ½ cup shredded, chopped chicory. Mix in the dressing leaving aside 1 tbsp. of it. Toss lightly.

Line a large flat platter with lettuce leaves and fill the middle with the shrimp salad. Blend the remaining dressing with finely chopped parsley or lettuce and decorate the top of the salad. Sprinkle with sauted walnuts and garnish the edge with pickled beetroot and olives or sliced tomatoes.

SPICED BURGERS

1½ kg. ground beef
½ cup onion, minced
1 tbsp. dill leaves (suva bhaji), finely chopped
2 tsps. salt
2-3 green chillis, minced
1 tsp. garam masala
1 cup cheese, grated

Mix the ground meat with onion, dill, salt, chillis and garam masala. Divide into six patties and grill for about eight minutes or each side. Sprinkle top with grated cheese.

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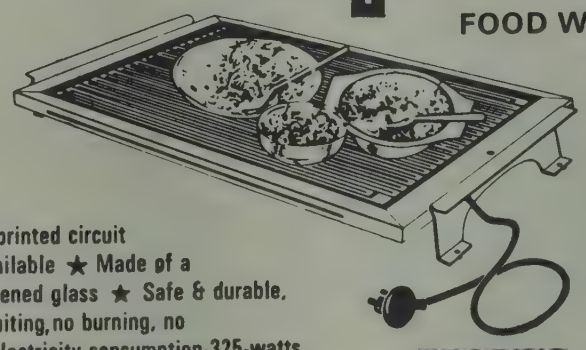

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HAMBURGER DELIGHT

1 kg. ground beef
½ cup potatoes, finely grated
1 tbsp. dill leaves finely chopped (suva bhaji)
Juice of 1 lemon
2 cloves of garlic (minced)
1 onion, finely chopped
3 green chillis, finely chopped
2 tbsps. coriander leaves, finely chopped
Salt and pepper
1 tbsp. tomato ketchup
Grated cheese
½ cup breadcrumbs

Mix the grated potatoes and soaked bread crumbs into the ground meat. Stir in the lemon juice, garlic, onion, chillis, ketchup, dill and coriander. Shape lightly into patties. Grease a pan and fry till well browned on one side. Turn the patties and continue to fry. Season with salt and pepper. Remove and serve, topped with grated cheese and accompanied by fried potato fingers and a tossed green salad.

ATTENTION COOKERY CONTESTANTS ! MORE GIFTS FOR OUR COOKERY WINNERS

Prize winners of our weekly cookery contest will get in addition to the usual Rs. 50.00 cash prize, 1) A non-stick coated Sandwich Toaster and a 9-cup Storefresh container from TRUPTI INDUSTRIES, Bombay, 2) WEIKFIELD'S Custard Powder, Jelly Crystals, Baking Powder, Ice Cream Mix Powder, Variety Custard Powder and Corn Flour, and 3) A book, "Eve's Guide to Fashion, Beauty, Cookery and Childcare" by AROONA REEJHSINGHANI.

So, send in your best vegetarian or non-vegetarian recipes accompanied with photograph and coupon to the Cookery Editor, Eve's Weekly, Apollo Street, Bombay 400 023.

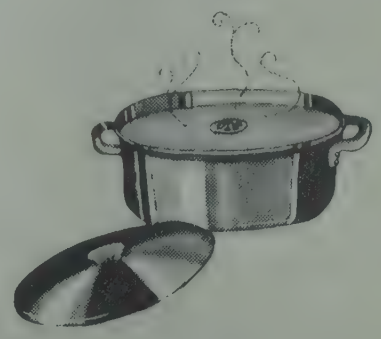
SUNDAY

Kheema Pulao

MONDAY

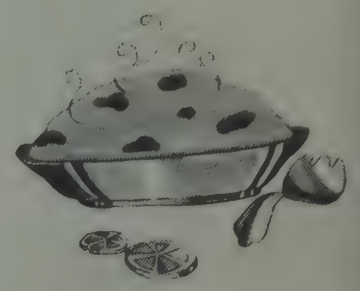
Kheema Peas

TUESDAY



Mutton Kurma

WEDNESDAY

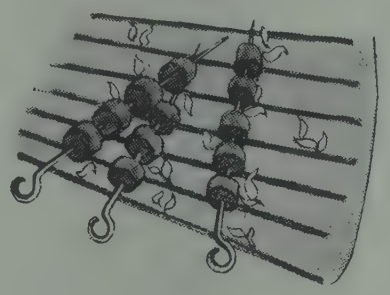


Biryani

THURSDAY

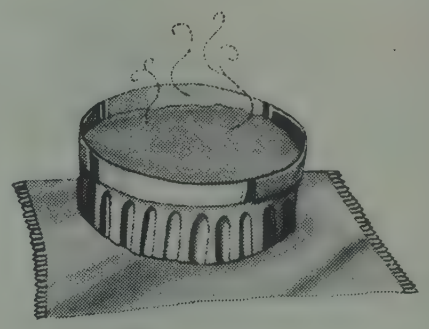
Roghan Josh

FRIDAY



Kababs

SATURDAY



Mutton Palak

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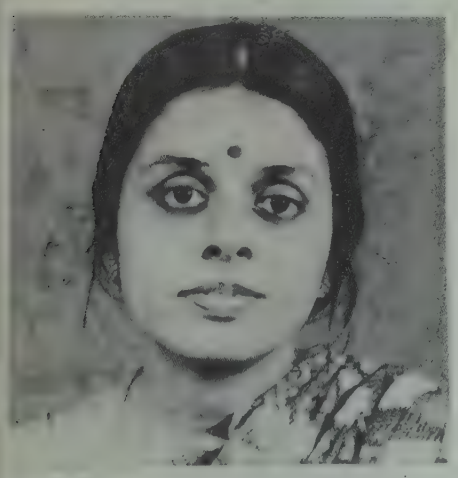
recipes from our readers

Jayashree Chaudhary, Agra.

SWEET POTATO BALLS

- 4 large red apples
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup water
- 3 sweet potatoes, medium size
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 2 tbsps. butter
- 2 tbsps. honey
- 4 walnuts

Wash and peel apples. Cut in half horizontally. Core and place cut side in shallow baking pan. Fill core and cover cut side with brown sugar and add little water. Bake in slow oven (325 deg.F) for about 45 minutes or until the apples are tender. While apples bake, cook and mash the sweet potatoes. Add remaining ingredients and beat until fluffy. Swirl a heaped spoonful on top of each baked apple half. Stuff each mould with 3 or 4 walnut halves. Return to oven for 10 to 15 minutes until brown.



Mrs. Madhavi Ramachandran, Madras.

COCONUT STUFFED BRINJALS

- 12 brinjals, medium size
- ½ coconut, grated
- 6 green chillis
- 1" piece ginger
- 2 bunches coriander leaves
- 1 small ball of tamarind
- 8 cloves garlic
- 1 tsp. poppy seeds (khush khush)
- 4 cardamoms
- 4 cloves
- 4 medium onions, finely sliced
- ½ tsp. turmeric powder
- 1 tsp. chilli powder
- 1 lemon
- Salt to taste
- Oil for frying

Grind the coconut, chillis, ginger, poppy seeds, tamarind and one bunch coriander leaves with salt to taste, to a smooth paste. Keep aside.

Wash the brinjals. Remove the stalk and make a fine slit in each. Stuff small amount of the ground paste inside each brinjal. Heat oil in a dekchi. Put the sliced onions, garlic, cloves and cardamoms and fry for a few minutes. Add the stuffed brinjals. Sprinkle with turmeric and chilli powder and mix. Do not add water. Add more oil as required and also salt if necessary. Cover the dekchi with a lid. Cook in oil on low flame.

Lift the lid occasionally and stir carefully without breaking the brinjals.

Cook till brinjals become soft and tender. Remove from fire. Add lemon juice. Garnish with the remaining coriander leaves. Serve hot with chappatis.

Mrs. Indu Pande, Rohtak.

LAUNG LATA

FOR FILLING:

- 250 grams khoya
- 650 grams sugar (150 grams for filling and 500 grams for syrup)
- 20 grams chironji
- 15 grams cardamoms
- 20 grams almonds, chopped
- 20 grams, raisins
- 6 tbsps. coconut (fresh and coarsely grated)
- Small quantity saffron
- 300 mls. water

FOR DOUGH:

- 750 grams flour
- 600 grams ghee (100 grams for kneading and 500 grams for frying)
- 20 grams cloves

First prepare the filling. Heat khoya in a karahi on low flame till light brown. Remove from fire and let it cool. Mix to it 150 grams sugar, saffron, dry fruits, grated coconut and cardamoms. Put this mixture aside for filling.

Prepare the dough by mixing 100 grams ghee with flour and knead with water to make a stiff dough.

Make small balls of this dough and roll like "puris" (about 30 from the above quantity). Cut the puris into two halves with a knife. Moisten the edges of this semicircle and fold it into a cone. Fill up this cone with the filling. Press the wet edges so that they stick firmly to avoid opening up when deep frying. The shape now got is like a "samosa". Insert one clove (laung) in this samosa. Deep fry till golden brown.

Prepare the syrup by boiling 500 grams of sugar in 300 mls. water. Put out the fire and let the syrup cool for five minutes. Now dip all the fried Laung Lata in this syrup for 10 minutes. Take them out and serve.

1 weekly winner

Mrs. Geeta Anand of Bombay, wins Rs. 50, for this week's best recipe plus a non-stick coated Sandwich Toaster and a 9-cup Storefresh container from Trupti Industries, Bombay, a gift from Weikfield and a book by Aroona Reejhsinghani.

SOYABEAN KOFTAS

- 250 grams soyabeans (soak in water for 1 hour)
- 2 tsps. cornflour
- Salt and red chilli powder to taste

FOR GRAVY:

- 2 large onions, ground
- 8 cloves garlic, ground
- 1" piece ginger ground
- 3-4 green chillis, ground
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 2 tsps. garam masala powder
- Green coriander leaves
- 2 tsps. coriander powder
- ½ tsp. turmeric powder
- Salt and chilli powder to taste
- 2 tbsps. oil

Drain the soaked soyabeans from the water and grind in a mixer. Add cornflour, salt and chilli powder and mix thoroughly Make small balls and deep fry.

GRAVY:

Fry the ground masala in oil till brown. Add chopped tomatoes, salt, turmeric and chilli and coriander powder. Fry till water dries and oil separates. Add water and cook for about 20 minutes till gravy thickens. Add koftas to the gravy. Sprinkle with coriander leaves and garam masala and cook for another 5 minutes. Serve hot with chappatis or rice.

ATTENTION, COOKERY ENTHUSIASTS!

Each recipe for the weekly and monthly contests and Recipes From Readers' page must be accompanied by this coupon. Those not accompanied by the coupon and a passport size photograph will not be considered for publication.

Each entry should be accompanied by an adequately stamped envelop if you wish to have your recipe and photograph back, if rejected.

Address your entry to the Cookery Editor, Eve's Weekly Ltd., Bombay Samachar Marg, Fort, Bombay-400 023

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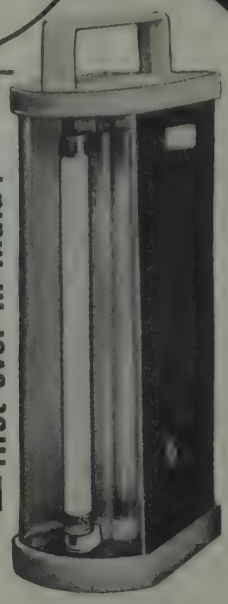

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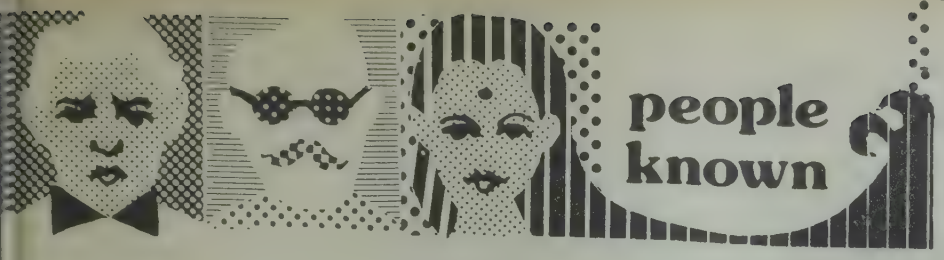


Leon Spinks seems to be a true successor of Muhammad Ali...down to the last detail of having a penchant for hitting the headlines as often as possible. Since he wrested the World Championship crown from Ali, Spinks has been doing his bit to make up for the many years he spent away from the limelight before his success against Ali.

Spinks, like Ali, has been stripped of his title. Only the reason is different; Spinks has lost his title because he failed to sign on for a match against challenger Ken Norton. The winner of the Spinks — Ali bout was obliged to sign up for a match against Norton, and when Spinks refused, officials felt compelled to strip him of his title. Bad luck did not stop with that. The Champ-for-21-days was hauled up and spent an hour in jail at St. Louis for driving up the

wrong lane of a one-way street, and not showing any proof of holding a driver's licence. He was released on bail, but he will have to try hard to clear himself of the black mark the police, and boxing enthusiasts, have marked against him.

* * *

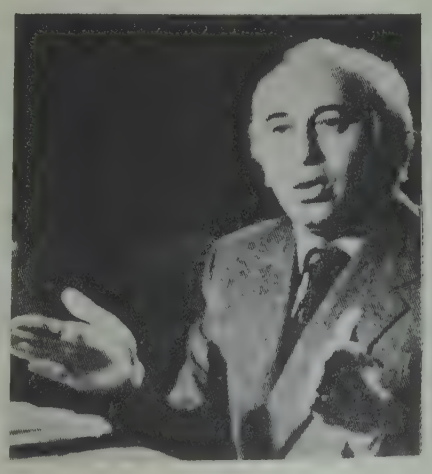
After having worked in the service of the nation for a period almost one and a half times the normal period of such service **Acharya Kripalani** has finally decided it is time for him to retire. The ninety-year-old leader recently made a public announcement to the effect that he was bidding his farewell to active public life, and would not be accepting any more invitations for public functions or receptions whatever their nature. However, neither his age, nor his intention to retire has blunted the keen edge of his mind, and the leader spiced his public statement with a few pungently worded opinions. Among them was the guarded observation that in his opinion no government was perfect, though some were better than others.

The idea to retire from public life and also from his post as Chairman of the Gandhi Samarak Nidhi, came in a "flash" to him. Similarly, if one day, this veteran should return to the public arena in another flash of inspiration it should not be a matter of surprise to those who know his ways, specially as the Acharya has stated that he would return if he found it necessary to do so, if he felt "the honour of the nation or the liberty of individuals was at stake.".

* * *

Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto has proved himself to be a formidable adversary. While in power he was a force to reckon with both for people within Pakistan and outside it. Even out of power, he was dangerous. And now if the death sentence agaist him is carried out, there are chances that Mr. Bhutto might prove to be stronger after death than he was during his life time. Mr. Bhutto is aware of this probability, which makes him sure of his being spared the gallows despite the sentence. Only this can account for the calm and poise with which this naturally theatrical person recieved his death sentence in court.

Whatever the result of the judgement, chances are Mr. Bhutto will remain in the news, and seriously threaten



the stability of General Zia's Government. His personal charisma, and the popularity he enjoys, will invest him with power — either as a politically active force or as a martyr — thanks to public sympathy.

* * *

One (hopefully) non-controversial thing **Satya Sai Baba** has done is donating a sum of Rs. 1 lakh for the construction of a prayer hall in the Andhra Education Society High School, Wadala. According to reports, the Sai Baba is not unused to making donations for what, according to him are deserving causes.

In an indirect way, well known danseuse **Vyjayanthimala** is collaborating with the Sai Baba in this aid project. She gave a performance at the Shanmukhananda Hall in Bombay in aid of the building fund.

* * *

The son of a famous painter, the late K. C. S. Paniker, 31-year-old **Nandagopal** has won enough honours to satisfy a much older artist. Among them are the National Award

for Sculpture (twice, the first time when he was only 23 years old), the Kerala State Award this year, and now he has bagged the most prestigeous of them all — the International Award — a Gold Medal and a cash prize of Rs. 20,000 — for his sculpture "Ritual Image".

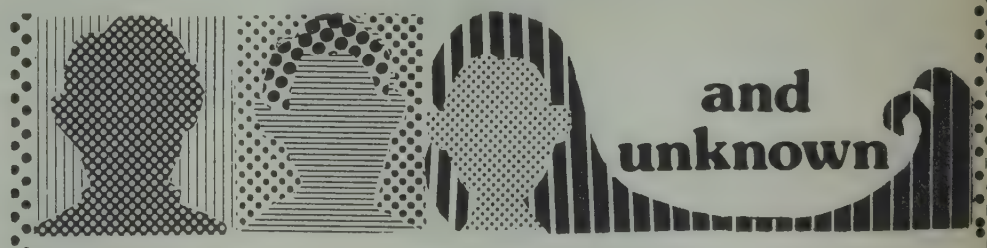
The prize was awarded by an international jury comprising distinguished men of the art world at the fourth international art exhibition.

Nandagopal lives and works at Cholamandal, the Artists' Village near Mahabalipuram. He has evolved an original technique of beating sheets of copper and silver, shaping them and then welding the separate pieces into elegant, eye-catching, pieces.

* * *

When the recent formation of the Congress-Congress (I) Government was formed, it helped develop Mr. **Datta Meghe** into a full-fledged politician from a mere youth leader. Mr. Meghe was selected to be a minister of State despite the fact that he does not have a seat in either the Council or the Legistative Assembly.

However, the gain was not without its debit side too. Mr. Meghe was forced to give up his fight against the Life Insurance Corporation. Not only had he to abandon his strike, but he also had to resign from his job with the LIC in order to be able to take up his post in the Government. His former employers promptly accepted his resignation, and told him that he would have to forfeit his salary for the notice period too, as a penalty for lack of adequate notice. Another unhappy, tension-creating problem before Mr. Meghe is the fact that he must seek, and secure, a seat in one of the two Houses of the State Assembly within a period of six months, or he will have to give up his Ministership, without the privilege of receiving a termination notice.



Umpires are meant to keep the game going. Mr. Punjabi, an umpire at the Ranji Trophy cricket semifinals at Delhi, managed to hold up the match by a good 25 minutes. For reasons known only to himself, Mr. Punjabi carried home with him, on the evening before the match, the box of cricket balls to be used for the game — and forgot to bring it back to the field when he came for the match. It was a bare 15 minutes before match time that the balls were discovered to be missing.

All's well that ends well. The match started 25 minutes late after the box containing the balls was fetched. But the controversy has begun over why Mr. Punjabi was allowed to take the balls home, and who had permitted him to do so.

Compiled by Sathya Saran

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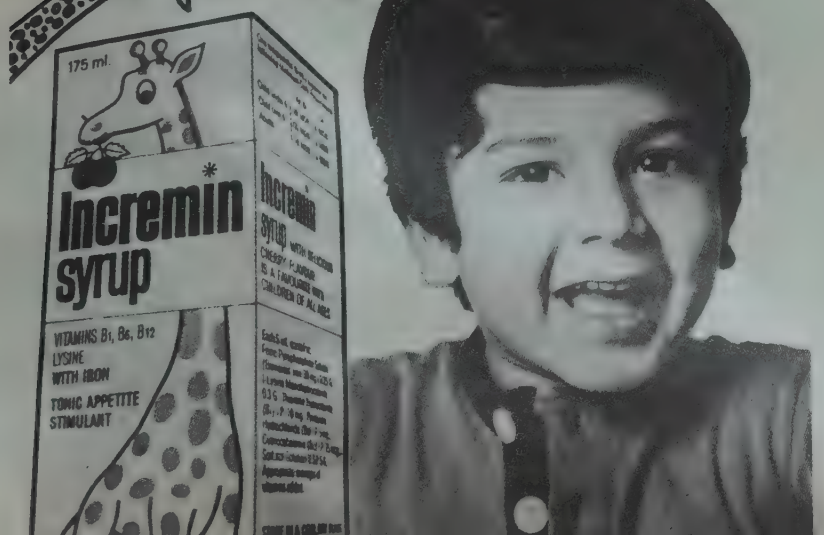

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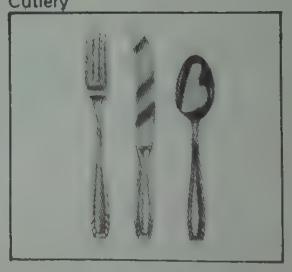

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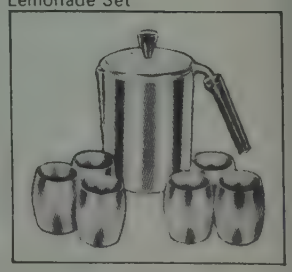

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PART ONE

THE TREE IS TALLER THAN THE MOUNTAIN

Perin Bharucha

When a girl is in love with two men simultaneously, she may turn to astrology for help

Was it possible to be in love with two men at the same time? I had found it necessary to give serious thought to the question in August of '71 — my final year at college. In most of the love stories that I'd read, the heroine was always the determined type who knew from the start which man she wanted. Naturally, the heroines of the storybook world are stunningly beautiful women with special talents for seeing to it that things always work out their way. With people like me, it's an altogether different game.

"Say, weren't you at the Kofee Korner last night?"

"Not unless you believe in trans-materialisation." That's the kind of thing that happens to me. So when I confided in my best friend that not only was I in love with two men but that they were in love with me too, I couldn't really blame her for looking skeptical.

"You worked out a special act or what?" Villie demanded as an instant reflex when I told her about Rumi and Ronnie.

"Nyet!" When I want to, I can say NO in six different languages. "I pay for it."

It wasn't one of my cleverer repartees. Ville was tempted to believe me. Couldn't say I blamed her either. My pronouncements must have knocked out Villie's ego. There had to be a catch.

"They couldn't be from around here," Villie sniffed.

I'm not sure why she sniffed but **around here** meant the hallowed precincts of St. Sebastian's College of Arts where both of us were taking our Bachelor's degrees and this conversation was being conducted in the usual place for such conversations — lecture room No. V.

While Prof. Mantri, a wizened old monkey of a man with atrocious pronounciation and hair sticking out of his ears, made Vedantic philosophy more incomprehensible than it already was, I unfolded the Rumi-Ronnie phenomenon to Villie.

"They sound like a comedy act," she cut in.

The comment (to put it mildly) was disconcerting. Hadn't I explained that the two chaps were as yet unaware of each other's existence? Villie's dumping them together showed that either she hadn't paid sufficient attention to my whispered bulletins or that she was being deliberately obtuse. The adverb is intentional because Villie is good looking and bright.

"They don't know about each other," I hissed irritably at her.

"Yeah, so you said. One is an accountant type who juggles your tax returns and the other fellow came along to sell you insurance. One kiss and it was instant combustion. Both times."

After this recital I shut up. I had done Villie an injustice. The ball was back in my court, only I wasn't sure how to tackle it.

Before proceeding in the matter I decided it would be wise to line up the pros and cons in a mental debate on Villie — would she be discreet vs. would she blab it all over town.

We were the same age, which is to say nineteen, and we had known each other for three years. Villie and I had also selected the same subjects — philosophy and psychology — so we had common interests. Socially we were on the same level — upper-upper-middle, whatever that means. And, we did get on rather well. Villie is also an only child, but there was one big difference in our lives. Villie's comings and goings were under the strict surveillance of an eagle-eyed mother whereas I was over eighteen and answerable only to myself. Ma and Pa Rattanshaw — my progenitors — had been killed in a motorcar crash four years earlier. They'd been en route to Marguerita's-in-the-South where I'd been a boarder, when their brand new Fiat Millicento succumbed to a fatal attraction for the rear end of a delivery van in front of it.

After I took up psychology, I discovered that it would've been quite, quite, okay for me to erupt in all manner of guilt complexes over "that God-awful tragedy" as sundry other Rattanshaws still called it. But the way I had seen it at the age of fifteen (which was when it all happened), if Ma and Pa Rattanshaw had cared enough about me in the first place, they wouldn't have packed me off eight hundred miles from home. So that (in the second place) the necessity to visit me needn't ever have arisen. Naturally, this is an opinion I normally keep to myself.

To say it out loud would be irreverent and, whatever else we Indians may shrug off, irreverence of one's forebears is not **comme il faut.** The Rattanshaws had made a very handsome couple and I guess I'd never really forgiven them for failing to cast me in the same mould.

After I turned eighteen and free — sole beneficiary, etc., of the Rattanshaw estate — I moved into my very own ownership flat. And this independent-bachelor-girl status was perhaps the only thing my friends envied me.

By the middle of the next lecture — the Psychology of Religion — I was still wondering about the extent to which I could confide in Villie when she prodded me with her elbow.

"You aren't even listening," she remonstrated. "It's all about the sex instinct in religion!"

I sighed. "It turns up in the oddest places, doesn't it?"

"You should know," Villie replied. There was no rancour in her tone and this induced me to tell her all.

"It has its disadvantages," I began.

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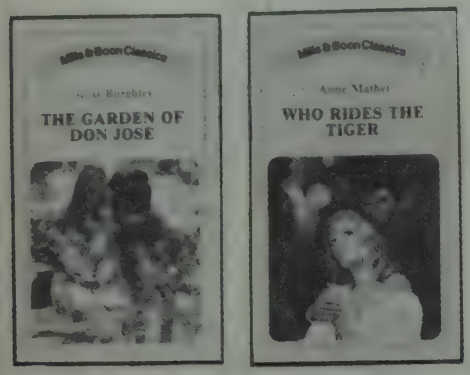

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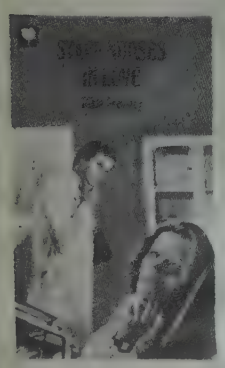

Staff Nurses in Love
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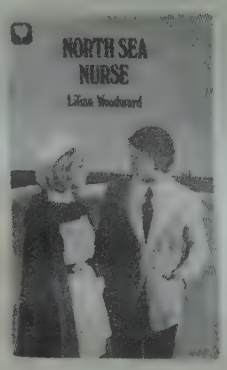

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THE TREE IS TALLER THAN THE MOUNTAIN

"What has?"

"Sex."

"Oh? Like what?"

"Like little babies. . ." I forgot to complete the sentence as Villie's eyebrows arched up a good quarter inch from their usual mooring.

"You mean the howling, shrieking variety which don't come wrapped in cellophane?"

Villie was making doubly certain of what I'd said. A sure sign that she was interested in knowing more.

"Which one's the proud papa?" she whispered. She had no business looking awed, but she did. Which made me forget what I had started out to say.

"You want a name?"

"For the baby?"

"No, stupid! A good K. O. man."

Since this was in the days before abortion was legalised I knew that Villie was only trying to be helpful.

"That won't be necessary," I told her though I really appreciated the offer.

"You mean you're getting married?" she persisted.

Villie's logic was commendable, but since that, more or less, was the crux of the problem, I hedged.

"Well, you see, I'm not quite sure. . ." I started, groping for the right words, but Villie, well-read as she was, obviously hadn't got around to Dale Carnegie. She had this terrible habit of cutting people off mid-sentence.

"You're doing a Vanessa Redgrave!" she interrupted.

"No, I'm not!"

"Listen, you moron." — idiot, imbecile and moron, in that order, are Villie's favourite forms of address — "you have no other choice!"

I was about to launch into a graphic description as to the precise nature of my dilemma when my in-built antenna vibrated. Something in the classroom was amiss. I looked in the direction of the lecturer's podium to find him pointing a finger at me and saying what sounded like, "You! Get out of the lecture room!" Rather than argue with a man whose vocabulary I knew to be more comprehensive than mine, I quietly gathered up my books and, with a mumbled, "See you later," to Villie I made for the exit.

Fifteen minutes later Villie joined me in the Cat House — a 20 x 20 waiting room on the second storey of St. Sebastian's east wing with the myth LADIES ONLY stencilled on its door.

"Right," said Villie, pulling up a chair next to mine. "Let's hear it. And don't dream of sparing me any of the gory details."

It was two hours before I finished telling her what it was about. Two hours might seem like a lot of time merely to confide in a friend that you were in trouble and not certain as to which of two contenders for your hand was responsible. But that I guess depends on the friend. Someone like Villie insists on interrupting a steady flow of words with idiot question like, "Haven't you heard of the pill?"

Was that possible?

A moment later Villie perked up visibly. That's not a girl anyone's advised to underestimate.

"If I were you I'd get married," she said brightly.

"Sure, but to which one?"

"The one I like more. Natch!"

"But suppose you liked both. Equally?" I persisted.

"Then to the one responsible for the knock-up."

We were back to where we'd begun and by the end of the month—on Parsi New Year's Day to be exact — I had to say "yes" to one and "no" to the other.

and offering unhelpful advice like, "try my brand. It works like a charm."

"Well?" asked Villie, when I finally stopped talking.

"That's it," I replied. There really was nothing more.

Villie remained uncharacteristically silent.

"Any suggestions?" I prodded.

Villie pulled a face.

"What would you do in my place?"

I was certain that would get her going.

"I don't know."

Forty-eight hours later when I still hadn't made up my mind, Villie decided that a "second opinion" on the two candidates was necessary.

"Even the specialists need one every now and again." Her father, an eminent E & P man (Villie's interpretation of genito-urinary surgeon), had told her this on several occasions. So who was I to say differently?

"And I can substantiate that from my own experience," she added, as I flexed my brains to absorb a Villie-type story, meaning the sort which has a moral to it. Villie has a fund of stories to back up her theories except that they all begin with the words. "Did I ever tell you. . .?"

"Did I ever tell you about the time my mother took me to Kashmir?" she asked.

I hadn't heard this one before.

"No," I replied, truthfully.

Even if I had heard it before, I wouldn't have admitted to it. During the three years that I'd known her, I had observed a very marked tendency in her to become instantly disinterested in people with retentive memories.

"I was just ten, see?"

To be quite honest, I found it hard to visualise Villie as a ten-year-old, but I conceded that I saw.

"And one day," she continued, "I was looking out of our hotel window and there was this pine tree in the garden which was blocking my view of Shankaracharya Hill. How tall is that tree, I asked my mother. About sixty, eighty feet, she said. And that hill in the back? A couple of thousand, she thought. Then how come the tree looks taller? I asked her."

Had my I.Q been somewhat higher than it is, at this juncture I would've applauded the moral in Villie's tale. Since it wasn't, I was still waiting for the punch line.

Villie tsk-tsked impatiently.

"It's an optical illusion— see? A matter of perspective."

"And problems closer to home seem bigger than they really are," I finished for her.

"Right."

My I. Q. had caught up with Villie's.

The big question was WHO to consult. We discussed the possibility of Villie herself screening the two candidates, but for a variety of reasons I decided against that course of action.

Another week passed before Villie came up with a really good idea. We would refer the Rumi-Ronnie question to Dr. V. D. Dikshit, M. A., LL.B., Ph.D., Astro-Palmist of international repute.

A small insert in the Personal Column of the morning paper had attracted Villie's attention She showed me the clipping.

"Worried?" asked the adlet. "Your future foretold through astrology and scientific palm reading. Full guidance given to remove all troubles regarding health, wealth, business, finance, enmity, friendship, love, marriage and children."

To Be Continued

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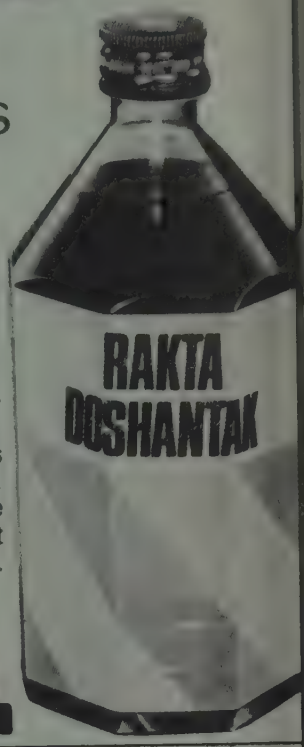

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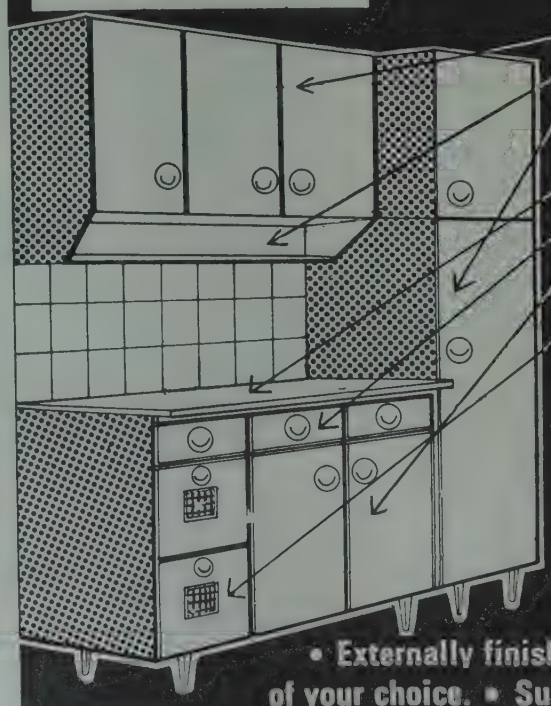

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PRABHAVATI DEVI:

A LIFE OF SELFLESS SERVICE

A tribute on her fifth death anniversary to the heroic wife of Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan

Shalan Savur

"You have only six months to live." Prabhavati felt the dark shadows of death reaching out to her at sixty-seven. Her first coherent thought was, "Who will look after JP?"

"Bhabhi hid her illness from all of us for one year," said Jayaprakash Narayan's younger brother, Rajeshwar Prasad. "She didn't want JP to worry as he had just recovered from a heart attack." But at the Banaras Hindu University Hospital, where JP was being treated for a carbuncle on his forearm, her increasing pains compelled her to speak about her illness. She was rushed to the Tata Memorial Hospital in Bombay where she was operated upon. "The doctors came out smilingly and told us the operation was successful. They said that the cancer was only within the uterus and had not spread outside it."

But actually the cancer had not been uprooted completely. JP watched and suffered as his wife rapidly lost weight. Although unwilling at first, she had to go back to Bombay, but she did not respond to any treatment, and this was when the doctors pronounced that she had only six months more. She survived for only three. . .

With the days going by so fast, Prabhavati found her hands full. There were so many things to be done. Her first thought was to see her nephew, Rajeshwar's son, Ratneshwar, settled. As Jayaprakash and Prabhavati had no children of their own, they doted on Anil (as Ratneshwar was fondly called).

DEATH AT WEDDING

"Raja Babu, let's hold the marriage ceremony at Patna," she said.

"But Bhabhi, it wil be a strain on you," Rajeshwar protected.

"No, Raja Babu," she said, her eyes full of sadness, "I wish to see Anil settled before I go. It doesn't matter how ill I am. Just find a good day for the marriage."

April 15, 1973. The next room was a bustle of activity. The strong, sweet perfume of burning sandalwood and incense would often assail her nostrils. A low and continuous hum could be heard as the elders conversed together. Prabhavati smiled gently, her eyes glowing as often JP or Rajeshwar would peep in to see how she was or pass on little titbits of news of what was going on. But not once did she tell them that she could feel death hovering around her, as her breathing became more and more difficult.

Now she could hear the chanting of the priests and her strained and ragged breathing seemed to blend in with the mantras. She felt as though she was floating, and everything seemed to be hazy, while indistinct sounds still reached her. At 8.45 a.m., five years ago, Prabhavati passed away quietly. Even her indomitable spirit could not sustain her frail body to live to see her last wish fulfilled.

* * *

India was in the grip of the British during Prabhavati's growing years. In 1916, when she was only ten, a terrible outbreak of riots shook Champaran — the home of the indigo plant workers — who were hired and fired at the will of the British landlords. Her father, Braj Kishore Prasad, a famous lawyer, was persuaded by Gandhiji to take up the cause of the workers. She watched in silence as her father returned home after periods of long absence, his face haggard with fatigue, his eyes shining with a new fervour. And she was filled with a strong resolution to devote her life to better the lot of her countrymen.

In 1920 Braj Kishore decided it was time for Prabhavati to be married. His colleague, Shambu Sharan Verma, suggested his relation Jayaprakash Narayan as a likely match. At the time JP was studying in the Patna College on a Government scholarship. His quiet, courteous manners endeared him to the Prasad family, and in October the marriage took place at Darbhanga.

AT THE ASHRAM

In the same year, a massive wave of bitterness and hate had engulfed India. The Rowlatt Act, now a law, continued press censorship and detention without trial. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre had horrified the whole nation. Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhi threw away their British titles. Braj Kishore Prasad, Motilal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and other Indian lawyers walked out of British courts never to enter them again. JP hurled his textbooks into a dam and vowed never to step into a British institution. And Prabhavati began her new life. After staying for a month at Sitabdiara with her mother-in-law Phul Rani, and another with her parents, Prabhavati entered Gandhiji's Satyagraha Ashram at Ahmedabad.

Prabhavati never forgot her first sight of the Ashram — a cluster of single-storeyed, white buildings shaded by huge trees, overlooking a wide open maidan, with a broad flight of steps leading down to the Sabarmati river.

Meanwhile, Jayaprakash received a letter from his friend Bhola Pant to join him in the United States of America for higher studies. Jayaprakash agreed but Prabhavati refused to accompany him. Thus the young couple spent the first eight years of their married life apart. Completely under Gandhi's spell, Prabhavati took the vow of celibacy for one year. But for her, it became a way of life.

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

JP wrote only a few letters to his wife, and on his return to India in 1929, they met as two shy strangers whose only bond was the sacred ceremony they had undergone nine years ago. Prabhavati was now a self-assured young woman of 23. Jayaprakash found her very attractive, but Prabhavati stood firm by her vow and even JP's magnetic personality and strong persuasion could not move her. Seeing his dilemma, Gandhi advised him to remarry, but JP refused and instead undertook the same vow.

They threw themselves into the National Movement. In 1930, Prabhavati joined in the Salt March to Dandi and in picketing shops. Later, she was imprisoned in the Allahabad jail for participating in a women's demonstration.

1934 to 1939 were trying and lonely years for Prabhavati, as JP was almost always on tour. She treasured the few hours they spent together. On one of these occasions, Rajeshwar Prasad happened to be in Patna. "JP always asked Bhabhi how she could dislike onions and garlic when she had never tasted them. One day, we decided to play a trick on her. JP told the cook to put both these items in the food in such a way that she would not know that they had been added. When we were eating, JP asked her if she liked it. She said, 'Yes', and even took a second helping and then a third helping! In the evening we told her what we had done. She was very angry with us, and said that she would cook her own food!" JP's favourite was chicken, but for Prabhavati's sake, he agreed to become a vegetarian.

Jayaprakash Narayan and his Socialists were strongly opposed to India assisting Britain in a European war. They issued leaflets titled, "1914: The Last War Was To End War!"

"1939: This One Is To Save Democracy!"

"Don't Be Fooled Twice."

"Work For India's Freedom."

He was hustled from prison to prison. Prabhavati finally managed to see him at the Deoli Camp. Jayaprakash tried to slip into her pallav a letter to his friends who were denied admission, but her start of surprise and the rustle of paper attracted the suspicious warder who confiscated it. After that Prabhavati was not allowed to visit her husband again as long as he was in prison. In 1942, with the help of his friends, JP escaped and made his way to Delhi.

In the following years, Prabhavati tearfully witnesed the death of her loved ones. In 1944, Kasturba passed away and only two years later, Braj Kishore died. One regret which always remained with her was that in his dying stages, her father could not recognise her. She turned more and more to JP.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Together they collected funds and built the Mahila Charkha Samiti to teach the women of Bihar to be self-sufficient. A long rectangular white building, it had a couple of rooms in which the women learnt to spin khadi. Sewing, knitting, making handicrafts and various other activities were gradually introduced. Stuffed red chillies, papads and pickles were made and sold. Prabhavati spent the rest of her life in this Samiti except when she joined Vinobha Bhave in his Bhoodan movement.

Prabhavati devoted her entire struggle-filled, pain-ridden life to the cause of uplift of the weak. Mrs. Gyanchand her close friend, said, "India needs women like her. She was a Shanta — she stood quietly but firmly by what she believed."

Thirty-six kilometres away from Madras, in Nandivaram village, a "Seva Kendra" is to be built. It will have a hostel for poor women, as well as provide education and courses in cottage industries. The kendra which is the first of its kind in India, will be named after Prabhavati. A fitting tribute to one who lived up to her name, and who brought light into the lives of thousands of destitute women.

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CANCER REHABILITATION: a must for cancer patients

It takes a lot of effort by a lot of people to restore cured victims of cancer to normal life

Not so long ago, only 50 years, cancer was a sure killer. Slowly medical science is triumphing over death, restoring several sure candidates for death to life. Doctors have succeeded in reducing the mortality rate to 65 per cent in cancer, yet the word "cancer" has been so identified with death that the public overlooks this improvement. And this outlook tends to make them underestimate the need for rehabilitation of the patient.

Rehabilitation is needed to restore the ailing patient back to his normal way of life as early as possible, fortified by faith in himself, confident of his ability to earn.

CANCER AMPUTEES

Cancer patients needing surgical amputation of an extremity or its major part may range in age from a few weeks to more than 70 years of age. Major amputation is necessary when malignant bone tumours have affected the limbs. Studies have shown that a significant percentage of amputees with a malignant disease survive from one to five years after the operation and are immensely benefited by proper prosthesis. They should be fitted with the prosthesis immediately following surgery as soon as the stitches are removed, for an early physical and mental rehabilitation.

Prosthetic planning should begin at the time of considering amputation. Component parts of the prosthesis can be assembled as the surgical treatment progresses and should be ready for fitting when the stump is ready.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA

Even under ideal circumstances, amputation is a very traumatic and depressing experience. The loss of a limb leaves a mental trauma and saddles the patient with tremendous readjustment problems. It is possible that immediate fitting of the prosthesis will reduce the trauma, but it is highly unlikely that it will altogether eliminate the shock and the devastating effect of losing a limb. Therefore, psychiatric treatment should be a part of the rehabilitation programme for this traumatic period. The patient should be encouraged to face the situation with courage and should be assured of continued care and almost near normal life after the surgery.

These amputees often lose their jobs and find it difficult to secure new ones. During the rehabilitation programme they should be trained in an occupation compatible both with their handicap and their talent and training. They should be helped to get such a job.

An amputee also finds it difficult to adjust to a less active life than he had lived before the amputation. He finds it extremely difficult to modify, and adjust to his new image. It is very difficult for him to maintain his self-respect when there is a feeling of being unwanted. Many amputees are worried about security and their dependence on others. Another serious problem with them is FEAR: fear of falling, of wet floors, of crossing the road, and the fear of the recurrence of the disease. Loneliness is another big problem for them. Fortunately, in our country, the joint family system saves many from this hopeless situation.

CANCER OF HEAD AND NECK

In addition to the problems and fears common to all cancer patients, those with head and neck cancer have some special fears. The head and neck have organs of special importance, therefore mutilation in this area usually has a greater physical and psychological impact. With the loss of sight, voice, tongue or hearing, there is a disfigurement which cannot be hidden. There may be a loss of ability to communicate and even eating and drinking may be major problems.

In this situation the more clearly a patient understands what is going to be done to him surgically and the rehabilitation that will follow, to what extent he is going to recover, the better he will handle the preoperative period. Good rapport between the surgeon, patient and the members of the rehabilitation team at this time will make easier the difficulties of management and will help the patient immensely in the postoperative and rehabilitation period.

These patients, because of mutilation and disfigurement, are scared of losing family and social relationships. Another problem is the feeling of guilt. They consider that this disease is a just punishment for past sins or sins committed in their previous birth. It is very necessary to counter such misconceptions. Besides, efforts should also be made to help family members to frankly express their fears about the patient's condition and about how the illness has affected or will affect their relationship with him. This aspect is often neglected and can create serious problems for the patient. A positive attitude is the most potent weapon for the successful rehabilitation of cancer patients.

Patients who have to lose their voice-box or larynx are faced with two facts to which they should be taught to adjust. They have to learn a new way of verbal communication, and they have to live with a permanent opening in their lower neck which may not be very nice to look at. Depending a lot on the ability of the patient, we can try and make him learn oesophageal speech or give him one of the many electronic instruments available for these patients to speak with.

If we outline the complete rehabilitation plan to the patient, it assures him of our resolve to restore him to normalcy and he knows that we do not intend to leave him deformed. The patient may look very deformed after the surgery, but now the reconstructive skills of surgeons can bring back almost normal functioning and look. The patient requires the full range of rehabilitation services — from social and personal adjustment training to trial work experience—to demonstrate that they do have the capacity to return to work. Many will need motivation and many will require retraining, intensive counselling and guidance throughout the rehabilitation process and follow-up.

NEUROLOGICAL PROBLEMS

Malignant tumours, whether primary or secondary, can involve the brain, the spinal cord and the nerves and will present neurological problems. In these people, prompt recognition of the disability is essential. Muscular weakness and wasting occur quite frequently in some, while pain is a very present problem in others Prevention and correction of deformities and restoration of lost functions of impaired organs form an imporant part of the rehabilitation programme in these patients. Doctors should try to minimise the deformities if it is not possible to completely eliminate them by splints and other supportive aids. If deformity can be prevented and the

Forearms amputated, a cancer patient shaves with the help of prosthesis.

range of movements of fingers are maintained during the recovery period, then restoration of functions at a later date is greatly simplified. This is no wishful thinking, with the help of modern orthotic techniques, it is a very practical possibility.

PROBLEM OF PAIN

A cancer patient's pain should be analysed and attempts should be made to find out its cause and then a comprehensive plan should be made to alleviate it. For local pains, nerve block with 5 per cent alcohol or 7 per cent phenol can be used, for root pains similar blocks are helpful. Radio therapy and neurotherapy may also be required to control the pain. Hypnosis can be of great help in controlling depression and pain.

BREAST CANCER

To have a breast removed for cancer is the most traumatic experience for a woman. So intense is the reaction of women to this loss, they need treatment for two ills: the cancer itself and the mental shock that surgery involves. As a rule, following the removal of the breast, women go through varying degrees of depression, anger and fear, all of which require proper handling.

Again, full team work and planned rehabilitation are required right from the time of diagnosis. During the postoperative period, a tremendous psychological adjustment is required of the patient. The treating team is morally obliged to discuss in detail and answer all the queries of the patient and reassure her. These include family reaction, sex life, future motherhood, clothing, breast prosthesis, to mention a few. A full range of activities like combing hair, hooking bra, etc. can prevent joint stiffness like a frozen shoulder.

COLOSTOMY

Many patients consider death better than an opening in the abdominal wall for defecation. In addition to all the mutilation factors, there is added the natural feeling of revulsion and despair when the patient and his family members realise that as a price for possible cure he must have an opening in his abdominal wall for stools. The patient's mind should be put at ease.

Besides taking care of the psychological problems, the patient should be taught to take proper care of his ostomy. If he can learn to place the colostomy bag properly, irrigate the stoma regularly and learn to live with his colostomy then rehabilitation is quite successful.

REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation is not a patent medicine, it should be compounded for each patient separately according to his needs and should be tailored to suit him. The programme should start right at the time of diagnosis and it should be team work between the surgeon, physician, psychiatrist, physiotherapist, prosthetist, social worker and vocational counsellor.

The family doctor is the best friend of the family and knows everything about the patient right from his social background to his habits and economic status. He also knows the private problems of his family. He has the confidence of the patient and his family members. Therefore, he can prove a key figure in planning and executing successful rehabilitation for the patient. In the case of a patient living far away from the place of treatment, it is the family doctor who will do the necessary liaison work and implement the programme at home. He instils faith and confidence in the patient.

The family members should realise that cancer is not infectious and therefore there is no need to isolate the patient and they should not feel any hesitation in associating with him. He should not be allowed to develop a feeling of depression and despair. They should not talk of the difficulty of treatment and other pessimistic things in front of the patient. In their efforts to help him, they should not become overprotective; they should encourage him to lead a normal life.

It is not possible for the doctor to arrange everything for the patient as he does not have the time at his disposal. Here the social worker is required to help the patient. Social workers are a vital link between the patient and his doctor. Service with a smile is their motto and they help the patient in solving his problems — mental worries, vocational troubles and even financial difficulties.

The Indian Cancer Society is doing a commendable job in helping cancer patients. They not only run rehabilitation centres where they provide vocational training but also run a prosthesis making centre. The patients learn new jobs according to their capabilities—sewing, bag making, canning, job work, plastic and other assembly jobs and making electronic components. Power loom working is one of the jobs they learn there. They also make beautiful handloom products that have export potential. In this centre there is also a programme for training personnel for rehabilitation.

These workshops work on humanitarian considerations and need public support for their work. A nationwide network of such centres is essential to give adequate therapy to patients near their home. This will reduce the time taken for the rehabilitation process.

It is essential to keep in touch with the patient after he goes home and he should attend the hospital regularly for check-up. If he finds the rehabilitation designed for him too difficult, he should go back for readjustment.

In hopeless cases, the patient should be taught at least to look after himself, so that he is not a burden on others — supply him with some method of getting around, teach him to manage toilet facilities, and his personal needs, etc.

Patience, sympathy, proper planning, physical assistance and vocational guidance are the prime factors for successful rehabilitation.

She has lost her legs to cancer but can get around to do her normal work

frankly speaking

Devi

Ravi Mohan, Simi's husband, is planning to explore Canada for business. I don't know what industry the Mohans have but most star husbands open up cold storages and fisheries. In any case, Ravi and Simi, like Mala Sinha and her husband (I still remember his name, Chitamber) maintain separate households. Chitamber lived in Nepal, she in Bombay. After invited appearances as Mala's hubby and the daughter's father, he dis-

SIMI'S ESCORT FROM LONDON

appeared and Mala Sinha appeared at filmland parties with good old papa Albert. Now that Ravi has appeared at all Raj Kapoor's parties and the International Film Festival, as well as all of Yash Chopra's parties and established that the relationship between husband and wife is cordial, he is free to visit or settle down in Canada.

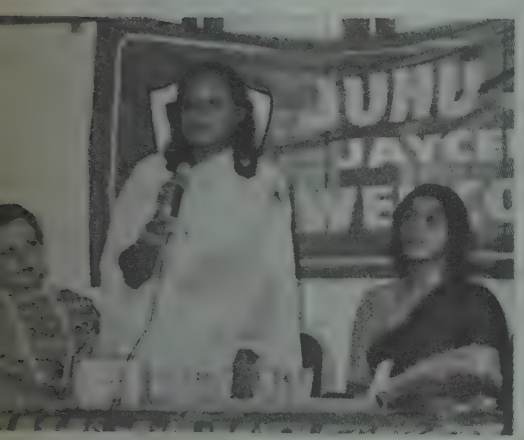
Simi these days is escorted by a white, sorry, platinum haired (you cannot possibly say a young millionaire's hair is white) magnate from London, originally from Africa. A Sindhi, David Rose (originally Devidas Gulabdas) talks with a spaghetti accent. He sips only Black Label whisky (borrowed from friends), drops names like Prince Charles, Marlon Brando, Harold Robbins, and wants to come on the Time magazine cover, as it's his wife's wish.

David, in spite of all the billions abroad, gets restless if he has to keep cabs waiting for more than five minutes, and he has retained his native instinct of admiration for female stars. Says he of Simi, "She is lovely and an adorable woman." David finds Pallavi Jaikishen very very beautiful, too, but Pallu is too tikhi for David. Said Pallu to me, "Who knows who he is? He may be all dhap."

Pallu, after her recent attack of jaundice looks even more seductive. No wonder, at Yash Johar's party, when Shatru came in with some girls from Delhi cackling all around him and Pallu gave quick, cold looks, Shatru saw them off to the car, and came back to Pallu.

people and events

ABOVE: Parveen Babi inaugurated an exhibition organised by "Two Loves", a boutique run by Mrs. Bina Kapoor (3rd from left), Mrs. Renu Chopra and Mrs. Sweety Kapoor (5th & 6th from left) in Bombay. Seen with them are Mrs. B. R. Chopra and Mrs. Charles Singh, managing director, Pure Drinks Pvt. Ltd.



LEFT: The Ladies' Wing, Juhu Jaycees organised a talk by Dr. Snehlata Panday (ext. right) on Beauty Care in Bombay. Chairman Dr. Niru Kenia welcomes the gathering.

Mrs. S. A. Sabawala inaugurates Nutan Gupta's (ext. left) exhibition of graphics in Bombay. Mr. Sabawala and Mr. Deepak Gupta (2nd & 3rd from right) look on.

An exhibition of Matador Fashion Fabrics was held by DCM Silk Mills in Calcutta. Pic. shows Mrs. C. R. Irani, chief guest with Mr. Amol Sandil of DCM Silk Mills and Mr. K. Diwan of MMG.

LEFT: Seen at the mass marriage of 17 orphan girls conducted by the Islamic Cultural Society of Madras are Mrs. Osman Ali Khan (standing behind the bridegroom) and other members and donors.

BELOW: At Gautami's arangetram held in Hyderabad, are seen from left Justice A. Sambasiva Rao, Mrs. V. Indira, Guru V. S. Rama Murthy, chief guest Mrs. Sharda Mukherjee, Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Gautami, Akkineni Nageswara Rao, and Mr. V. Kameswara Rao, Gautami's father.

LEFT: Mrs. Chandra Govind Narain, wife of Karnataka's Governor, released a recipe book brought out by the Bangalore Ladies' Circle at a function in Bangalore. Gita Ramaswamy, secretary, Ladies' Circle, receives the book from Mrs. Narain. Looking on is Anita Baloo, chairman, Ladies Circle.

bombay

The Malabar Hill Jaycees and their Youth Wing's 5th Inter-School cycle race was held last month.

There were 347 participants from 202 schools.

The winners were: Boys: Rodrigues Arthur of St. Mary's High School (S.S.C), Savit Sethi of St. Stanislaus High School and Adrian Mascarenhas of Air-India Modern School. Girls: Sareen D'Souza of St. Joseph's Convent High School, Nergish Batliwalla of J.B. Vachha High School, and Bharati Sethi of Carmel Convent School.

The chief guest was Mr Thirunarayan, Director of Bombay TV, and the guest of honour was Mr. Chandubhai Udeshi, chairman of Metro Exporters. Jaycee president Shabbir Y. Kachwalla presented a rotating shield and a free style cycle to the first prize winners.

* * *

Jayceerette chairman Dr. Niru Kenia arranged a talk and demonstration on methods of medically guided slimming and Skin and Hair Care by Dr. Snehlata Panday. 55 women attended this programme.

At another beauty demonstration arranged by Dr. Niru Kenia, 50 women were given tips on facials, make-up, hair style and beauty care by Miss Winne of Yees Beauty Parlour.

* * *

An exhibition of sarees and ghaghara-choli sets and exclusive silver jewellery in traditional styles will be held at the Cymroza Art Gallery on April 21 and 22. The organisers, Sujata and Rita Kothary, have collected the fabrics from Rajasthan and Gujarat. This is their first exhibition.

delhi

"Raag-Rang" arranged a concert by ghazal maestro Mehdi Hasan at the Modern School grounds. Mehdi Hasan was at his best that evening and won over hundreds of more admirers. Raag-Rang is an association which, besides doing social welfare work, looks after the needy families of musicians. Naina Devi, president of the society, is an untiring worker and is a great help to the struggling artistes.

calcutta

A young artist, Anita Ghosh, held her first one-woman show at the Academy of Fine Arts. Anita studied Art at the Sir John Cass College School of Arts, London and in the London Polytechnic. Two of her paintings have been selected for the West Bengal Artists Midsummer Exhibition at the Academy.

madras

In spite of the importance of photography there is hardly any journal published in India to give due publicity to manufacturers and traders in photographic cameras, equipment, films, papers, chemicals, etc.

Sooriya Publishing House proposes to remove this deficiency by bringing out an "Annual of Indian Photography". Mr. A. Arunachalam, a pioneer in this field will be the Honorary Editor of the Annual.

Twenty-four photographs will appear in the Annual, representing the outstanding work of Indian camera artists. Photographers, amateur as well as professional, are invited to submit their work on any subject of salon standards in monochrome only. Not more than six prints will be accepted by each entrant, not less than full plate and not over 12 by 10 inches. A list containing the name and address of the artist and the titles of the prints submitted, neatly packed, should accompany the prints. These should be sent by registered post to the publishers, The Sooriya Publishing House, 120, Thaiyappa Mudali Street, V.O. C. Nagar (George Town), Madras — 600 001.

An entry fee of Rs. 5 to cover return postage and handling charges should be sent. The scheduled last dates are: For the receipt of entries — 30-4-78, Notification of accepted entries — 31-5-78, Return of unapproved entries—30-6-78 and Publication to be released — 31-7-1978.

bangalore

The Quota Club of Bangalore was chartered at a colourful function in Bangalore Club, with the Karnataka Governor and Mrs. Govinda Narain as chief guests.

Usha Kesari gave the invocation and Iris Gonsalves read the prayer. Lakshmi Nizamuddin gave the welcome address, followed by Hilda Koilpillai who read the messages. Chaya Srivatsav introduced the members. Mrs. Joyce Fren of Quota International, Australia, came specially to instal the members, induct the office-bearers and present the charter.

The Governor extolled the objectives of the Quota International, which is a professional women's service club, doing good work to help the deaf. Mrs. Dechu Moola proposed a vote of thanks.

kerala

The 20-year-old Kerala Fine Arts Society, Cochin, celebrated Members' Day recently. Sports events for members and their families and a rich cultural programme highlighted the celebration. In the State Level Annual Music competitions held in connection with the celebrations, the Swathi Tirunal Gold Medal was won by Miss N. Girija of Trichur and the Sarada Krishna Iyer Gold Medal by Miss T. H. Lalitha of Trippunithura.

* * *

The Lions Club of Kottayam has set up a Child Welfare Centre opposite the Kottayam Railway Station. It was inaugurated by the Governor Mrs. Jothi Venkatachalam. Acording to Dr. Kurian Jacob, Club President, a vocational training programme and self-employment schemes will also be taken up by the Centre. The activities of the Centre are managed by the Leon Ladies Club, which has contributed Rs. 10,000 from its own funds to the centre.

hyderabad

Gautami, daughter of Mr. V. Kameshwara Rao, General Manager, Telecommunications, recently made her Bharata Natyam dance debut at the Ravindra Bharati. Mrs. Sharda Mukherjee, Governor of A.P., was the chief guest and congratulated the young dancer on her fine performance. Popular Telugu cine idol A. Nageswara Rao, and Justice Sambasiva Rao were among those who praised her performance.

world of eve

PREMI TALWAR
KARUNA SINGH

Putul Printers, Calcutta—a fabric printing concern — was the outcome of the boredom and surfeit of leisure time experienced by two housewives.

Premi Talwar lives at Kamarhati, 12 miles from Calcutta city. Isolated and bored, she decided to set up a printing workshop. "I was scared to take it up professionally, but one successful assignment decided it." Once she started supplying sarees to shops in New Market, the need for a city office with someone to manage it, arose. Premi found an ideal partner in Karuna Singh.

Their showroom was established in 1962, boosting their business. Recalls Karuna, "We went in for printing almost anything — saris, upholstery, tapestry, dress material, and fabrics of many kinds. Now we are doing khari and velvet printing on nylons and tetrons, quite a trendsetting project."

The workshop at Kamarhati now employs 18 workers. It started with three.

The lack of books on silk and discharge printing actually helped Premi initially. She did a very practical "three-week training (course) with a friend who prints in Delhi."

Explaining their process of work, Premi says, "We select the designs at random, because the reaction of the public is so unpredictable. Certain designs have retained their popularity for over ten years, while others, which we personally found quite attractive haven't caught on at all. There is no fixed rule for colours. The customers have a lot of faith in Karuna's colour schemes."

They follow a systematic division of labour. While Premi sees to the actual printing, the mixing of colours and the experimenting with new designs and fabrics, Karuna attends to the assembling of designs, the booking of orders and the accounting.

Now with an established reputation, these two women are taking on new challenges.

hi ya honey!

By an Alves called Johnie!

I AM GOING TO SPEND A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY... AT HOME

I write this some time in April, when thoughts of holidays are uppermost in my wife's mind. For some reason we always go out in May, even if it is to a hotter climate. Ever since I was a poor school master, May was the month for a holiday even though I could not then afford one. In fact, it was the Alves family which started the trend of "Travel now, pay later."

Some people love to get-away-from-it-all and spend days in the jungle. I want my holiday in comfort. When my friends say they are off to unspoiled Nasik or Dahanu, it means there's no electricity, no tap water, plenty of mosquitoes and beds that make sadhus of us. Give me a comfortable bed, especially my own, and that's my idea of a good holiday.

I cannot understand why I should spend my hard-earned money to travel far and stay in a tent with flies, snakes and ants for companions. Why should I cook my food over smoking fires and weep while the birds sing on the trees? I cannot understand why I should shout praises of toddy that is adulterated with well water, when I can easily enjoy chilled beer at home.

The funny thing about our yearly sojourn at whichever place she decides to go to is that after a week or so both of us yearn for the comforts of home. There is nothing glamorous, for instance, in making your tenth visit to Matheran and, like two love-sick idiots, recall how nine years ago you carved your names on the mango tree next to the hotel.

Yes, the hotel manager does welcome you with open arms. He does know who you are by name, and that boosts your ego. But it would be too stupid not to realise that he is in fact welcoming your purse rather than your person. Try sending only a full wallet one day and see if the welcome is not even greater than the one you get. Of course, the bell boy carries your luggage. He will be standing with outstretched hands when you are about to leave, tired and broke. You'll be surprised to note the number of people who stand with outstretched hands, who have contributed to make your holiday miserable.

Never read brochures on holiday spots. They all promise to give you the holiday of your life. It indeed turns out to be one. You'll never want another. It is very rare that the sea and the skies are as blue as they are made out to be, that the flowers are so brilliant and the women so beautiful.

When I took a boat ride round the canals in Amsterdam, the guide stood proudly on deck and exclaimed, "Look to your right, ladies and gentlemen, and see that house. It is the smallest house in Holland!" American cameras went clicking like mad. "Oh God!" I said to myself. "Have I come 8000 miles to see this when the smallest houses in the world are just 100 yards behind my house, each housing a complete family?"

People spend hours to decide whether Mahabaleswar is quieter and cooler than Matheran, whether the hooch in Madh Island is cheaper than that in Gorai, or breasts are barer and larger in Kerala than in the Punjab and then return disappointed from whatever place they visited.

Most holiday resorts are overrated. I was told so much in glowing terms about Matheran. An idiot aunt spoke of the heavenly match-box train to the hills. It was so crowded and so painfully slow, I would have preferred to walk. "The peace and quiet of Matheran is something to hear." It indeed is, with each holiday maker having his own transistor tuned to his own favourite station. "And the food is excellent." All sent from left-over material from here and prepared by cooks holidaying from Bombay. Honey, don't fall for the beauty of the mountains and valleys of Matheran. You will see heights and cleavage that Raquel Welch would put to shame.

No luv, stay in the comfort of your home, spend less and have a whale of a time. . . unless of course you are married, then go for a separate holiday — it's the vogue.

Until next time then.

next week

Eve's Weekly

ISSUE OF APRIL 22, 1978

HAVOC IN THE CAPITAL

Mid-March saw a part of Delhi devastated in a matter of minutes by a sudden tornado. The university area was among the worst-hit. An on-the-spot account of the havoc left in the wake of the disaster.

NEW STAR ON THE HORIZON

Nafisa Ali, ace swimmer and beauty queen, and now a star in the film firmament, is interviewed by Pearl Padamsee, the well-known theatre (and now film) personality.

ALLERGIES

A detailed, doctor's guide to common allergies.

GENETIC COUNSELLING

Many abnormalities in children are the result of genetic disorders in either or both of the parents. Sessions with a trained genetic counsellor before marriage can help reduce the chances of many abnormalities.

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